

**FREE
GUIDE
INSIDE**



**YOUR COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE TO THE
2017 RALLY AND EVENT SCENE**

Bus & Coach PRESERVATION

Inside this month:

DOMINO EFFECT



EAST KENT COLLECTION



BRISTOL BACK IN WALES



O.K. EXPANSION



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and a whole lot more!**



Quantock latest

**Barton PDI is a real
showstopper!**



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The latest news from the world of bus preservation and beyond.

QUANTOCK LATEST

Barton's Duple-bodied Leyland PDIs are surely amongst the most elegant double-deckers ever built. Now as PHILIP LAMB reports, another is back on the road.

RETURN JOURNEY: BARTON

Join us in a trip back in time, Barton style.

ON THE ROAD

DAVID JUKES welcomes you to B&CP's newest feature and presents a selection of older buses and coaches seen on the UK's roads this January.

NOT ALWAYS OK!

Running classic coaches, reactivating OK Motor Services and acquiring a unique and magnificent AEC is a true enthusiast's dream come true. But Tim Philips has suffered many setbacks as NICK LARKIN reports.

AFTER THEY WERE FAMOUS: A BRISTOL BONUS

There would appear to be no vehicle better suited to non-PSV use than a Bristol. Here we take at a variety in a variety of roles...

BARRY'S LATEST

Late last year a wartime survivor arrived at the Cardiff Transport Preservation Group's Barry depot. TUDOR THOMAS reports.

RETURN JOURNEY: DOWN IN THE VALLEY

We pay a return visit to the Welsh mining town of Pontypridd, which apart from producing coal, is the home of singer Tom Jones.

A LITTLE NIPPER'S DREAM

As a 15-year-old schoolboy Iain Bostock-Frith bought a rare Dennis Domino for preservation in 1998. SIMON GILL has been to meet him and brings us news of its fine restoration.

RETURN JOURNEY: SYPTE REMEMBERED

As ever at B&CP, we go the extra mile by bringing you more SYPTE memories!

TEA-BREAK TIME

Sheffield 216 is a bus that has been hanging around the South Yorkshire Transport Museum for more years than anyone can remember, but with a skilled and enthusiastic restoration team now in place, it will soon be back on the road. DAVID JORDAN reports.

NOTTINGHAM CELEBRATION

2016 saw the 50th anniversary of the last trolleybus to operate in Nottingham. JOHN CHILD was there to record the event.

A JOURNEY INTO HISTORY

The East Kent Nostalgic Bus & Coach Trust was formed in 2012 by Adrian and Jonathan Baxter. In the first of a two-part feature DAVID JUKES takes a close look.

THE MODEL PAGE

Oxford Diecast's Commer Commando coach is reviewed by NIGEL APPLEFORD.

OFF ROUTE

Thoughts on low-floor buses and a Crossley but not as bus enthusiasts know it are under discussion by NICK LARKIN this month.

BUSMART

B&CP's comprehensive advertising section, where you can buy or sell any bus-related item.

PRESBUS BOOKSHOP

The latest news and reviews for all bus-book buyers.

Cover: **Barton 467 (JNN 384), a 1948 Duple-bodied Leyland PDI is the latest Barton bus to return to the road. Read the full story in page 14.** PHILIP LAMB

6

14

18

22

26

30

35

38

41

48

50

52

54

58

62

65/1

XIII

QUEENSFERRY RULES!

Several buses and coaches preserved today owe their existence to Tom Hollis, a Flintshire operator with a base not far from the English/Welsh border in the Deeside town of Queensferry. In the 1970s and 1980s, Hollis' yard became a place of pilgrimage for bus enthusiasts — such was the variety of ageing vehicles to be found there. This month we make a retrospective visit in pictures to see some of those gems that are, thanks to Tom, still with us today.

MAIN PICTURE: What a trio! On the left we see former Barton 782 (WAL 782), a 1948 Leyland PSI delivered as CWH 262 to Knowles of Bolton with a Santus coach body. It was rebodied by Barton in 1957 with this Willowbrook lowbridge body. Today it is a regular sight on the rally scene.

Massey-bodied Foden PVD6 FDM 724 is currently an altogether harder bus to spot, although those in the know take a peek in the bottom shed at the Transport Museum, Wythall, where the Foden has resided for many years awaiting restoration. Delivered to Phillips of Holywell in July 1949 for its Holywell-Mold and works services, it was later relegated to school contracts before passing in 1969 to Hollis of Queensferry, where it spent a few more years on schools work. It was sold to the emerging Wythall museum in 1980.

Completing the line-up is 371 BKA, its destination layout suggesting correctly that its origins were in Liverpool. This Park Royal-bodied AEC Regent V was new to the municipality in 1959 as its EI, as its fleet number indicates, an experimental vehicle pitched against a Leyland Atlantean, E2 (372 BKA) with a view to further fleet purchases, the Atlantean winning the day. Today both buses are in the care of the Merseyside Transport Trust, as is E3 (116 TMD), an AEC Bridgemaster which also briefly joined in the fun. Pictures: PRESBUS ARCHIVE





LEFT: Another well-known vehicle to pass through Tom Hollis' hands is Harrington-bodied Leyland PS2/3 GDM 494. Seen here in September 1976, this coach had been new to Wakley & Sons of Flintshire in April 1950, passing to West's Coaches t/a Reliance (Kelsall) Ltd with which it operated between 1957 and 1967. The coach was bought by Tom Hollis of Queensferry, where it was reupholstered and repainted, and used on contact work before passing to David Dean of Classique Coaches of Paisley around 1981. It has today been restored to the livery of West's Coaches by Colin Cowdery.



YARDLEY WOOD BUS CLUB

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Kings Heath, Free shuttle bus
See top of page for details
25 / 26 Mar Manchester
Transport Museum

9 Apr Brooklands Bus
Museum Open Day
16 / 17 Apr Transport Museum
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Time flies

It's the April issue again — is it really a year since we last published our Rally Guide? Once again this year's is packed with bus-related events. Most of the old favourites are back, but one or two have, sadly slipped by the wayside, the most notable being the LOTS Autumn Spectacular, which has, after 45 years, called it a day citing falling attendances both in terms of stallholders and visitors. In recent years the event has been held at the RAF Museum at Hendon, where it sat uncomfortably occupying two completely separate halls. Not an ideal situation, and one which has undoubtedly contributed significantly to its demise.

Locations for indoor events during the winter months are hard to find anywhere, not just in London. It is, as many have discovered, difficult to find halls of adequate size with plentiful free car parking. Add sufficient space to display and/or operate a few buses and the task becomes nigh on impossible.

Our recent New Year event at Coventry Rugby Club is a case in point. Many venues were looked at. The cost of hiring a hall varies tremendously with some offering much better value than others, costs bearing little or no relation to the facilities on offer. Some venues are just too expensive given that stallholder fees and door money have to cover all hire costs.

Toilets and catering are big issues. When it comes to the latter it's a question of what to provide, and who to provide it. Is there sufficient space for people to sit and chat over a bacon sandwich and a cup of tea? Will all the hoped for stallholders have sufficient space? Will there be sufficient space for gangways? The list goes on.

So just when we thought we'd reached the end of the road we found the Coventry Rugby Club — not the hugely expensive to hire

Ricoh Arena, home of the Wasps and Coventry FC, but the much more modest Butts Arena home of the long-established Coventry Rugby Club, and suddenly it all came together.

Come the day, thanks to the efforts of Roger and Lynn Burdett, the buses came, and so did the visitors, around 700 of them. Hopefully we will be able to do it all again next year, but at the moment there is some doubt as to whether or not the venue will be available on 1 January 2018, so watch this space.

But back to this year and this year's Rally Guide. We were pleased to see some new events and some one-offs celebrating anniversaries etc. For our part we will be in attendance whenever and wherever we can. Events old and new are on our visiting list and we are looking forward to meeting as many readers as we can, so do come up and say: Hello! It's a good opportunity to take out a subscription — we are planning some unbeatable show offers this year, so please ask.

Happy rally going!
PHILIP LAMB

**Bus & Coach
PRESERVATION 2017
GUIDE**

**YOUR COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE TO THE
2017 RALLY AND EVENT SCENE**

FREE
WITH THE APRIL ISSUE OF
**Bus & Coach
PRESERVATION**

From Horsed Carriage to Olympian



Two vehicles which conveyed tourists around the Isle of Wight, some 110 years apart, have recently been presented to the Isle of Wight Bus & Coach Museum, which now occupies the former Ryde bus depot.

The *Civility*, a four-horse 16-seat carriage built locally by Richard Bird Cheverton of Newport (IoW) in the 1880s has been presented to the Museum by English Heritage following undercover storage for many years. As the oldest road passenger vehicle on the Island, it was built for Vanner & Son of Ryde for its Ryde–Wootton–Newport–Carisbrooke Castle service.

By the time it entered service, the Ryde–Newport–Cowes railway line had opened, so the horse-drawn vehicles performed largely excursion traffic. The Carisbrooke run still operated but *Civility* also ran between Ryde and Ventnor and on a 'Round the Island' three-day tour, which meant overnight stays at coaching inns.

The coach was so-named because Thomas Vanner was summoned to Osborne House (Queen Victoria's residence) to answer the charge that he failed to give way to a royal carriage. He denied the accusation, stating he was always civil, and his next new coach was so named!

Civility was in use until World War I, when the requisition of horses ended the trade. Following the cessation of hostilities motor charabanc were introduced. Following storage on a local farm, most of Vanner's fleet was sold or scrapped in the 1920s.

Fortunately *Civility* survived, appearing from store for the Schneider Trophy Race celebration in 1929, Ryde Carnival in 1935 and the Isle of Wight County Show in 1996, by which time it was owned by the late Audrey Russell, a Vanner descendent.

Specialist advice and treatment is being sought by the Museum to conserve *Civility* which still carries an original red and black livery, but it will be on display for the 2017 season.

The second vehicle presented to the Museum is a 1993 Northern Counties-bodied Leyland Olympian (K743 ODL), new to Southern Vectis for the *Island Explorer* circular. It was one of a batch of nine similar dual-purpose-seated buses designed to provide a hop-on, hop-off facility in place of the traditional Round the Island coach tours.

Later converted to open-top, it worked the Needles and Downs Tours until withdrawal at the end of the 2016 season. It was donated to the Museum by Go South Coast and handed over by Engineering Manager Julian Rose at a ceremony for the official opening of the Ryde premises by local Mayor Henry Adams.

The Olympian completed the Island circuit in just less than four hours — a far cry from the leisurely age of the horsed carriages. Report: RICHARD NEWMAN
Pictures: BRIAN DICKS



You've had your LOTS

The latest issue of the TLB (The London Bus), magazine of the London Omnibus Traction Society (LOTS) advises that after some 45 years, there will be no more LOTS Autumn Spectaculars. Recent Spectaculars have been held at the RAF Museum in Hendon, but the organisers have now decided that declining trader and visitor numbers are making it uneconomic to continue holding the event.

Former Davies Bedford YMQ for sale

Bedford YMQ/Duple Dominant II C45F DBX 548W was being offered for sale in February on eBay Internet auction site.

The Bedford, which has been stored since September 2003, was new to Davies of Pencader in August 1980 as fleet No 127, passing to Jones t/a Dyma-Fo Minera in January 1986 has been with GHA Coaches of Wrexham since January 1988.

It's being offered for preservation, interested parties should ring 07951 200231 or 07908 965611.
Report: JOHN WAKEFIELD
Picture: DAVIES MOTORS.



Manchester visitor numbers exceed 19,000 in 2016

Against a background of economic downturn and dying bus rallies, the Museum of Transport Greater Manchester is celebrating a record year for visitors — a shade under 20,000 in 2016 and an increase of 9.8% over 2015. The Museum puts the increase down to three key factors: school visits linked to the national curriculum, creating special events with broad appeal and focusing on attracting younger, non-enthusiast family visitors.

Museum spokesman Paul Williams said that the Museum was delivering on a five-year plan to increase its visitor and volunteer base: 'There are only so many bus enthusiasts, and a finite number of times you can ask them to visit. The key for us has been attracting family groups, especially younger families, and thinking about what we provide from their perspective. Older and more knowledgeable people might appreciate looking at the difference between a Regent III and a Regent V, but for young families it's important to experience and to discover. So we have a dressing-up facility, a colouring area, and quiz sheets written around educational key stages. None of them get in the way of what we're about, preserving vehicles and other



artefacts, but they broaden our appeal.' The Museum also named its biennial model tramway exhibition in May 2016 and the successful 'Big Orange' event in October as highlights that brought in visitors who paid entry, bought a gift and enjoyed refreshments.

Paul stressed that the Museum has no intention of turning its back on being basically a museum of real buses, and

plenty of them — Atlanteans will not make way for interactive laser displays. The Museum has now published its 2017 events programme, with the centrepiece being a 1960s weekend on 21 and 22 October, so along with other running days there'll still be plenty of opportunities for enthusiasts 'to put on the anorak', take aim with the camera and ride vintage buses all day long.

Exiled Bedford OB for sale in Netherlands

Bedford OB/Duple Vista, EDR 793, exported to the Netherlands in 2003 is being offered for sale by its Dutch owner Peter Van de Merwe of Dordrecht for £47,000.

The OB was new to Pridham of Lamerton in March 1949, passing to Bruce & Roberts of Lewdown in 1968 from where it was withdrawn in 1974. In 1985 it passed to County Coaches of Brentwood, where it was maintained as a class 6 vehicle and used on private hires as well as making numerous rally appearances.

It was sold to Hans Bezeemer of Alphen aan den Rijn the Netherlands in 2003, a Dutch wedding bus operator where it received the Dutch registration BE-52-07. In 2012 it passed on again in the Netherlands to Peter Van de Merwe of Dordrecht who again used it on wedding hire. Report: JOHN WAKEFIELD
Picture: MICHAEL WADMAN



Buckinghamshire Railway Centre 'Needs Your Buses!'

The Buckinghamshire Railway Centre is planning on making a splash at its Annual Bus Rally, held this year on Bank Holiday Monday 29 May, and is looking for extra

buses to come and exhibit! They would welcome any buses of any age or era, or size — full size, miniature or model. They are offering trips out, so if anyone would

like to offer this service, then the railway would love to talk to you.

Exhibitors will benefit from free entry to the site, which will include unlimited free steam train rides and entry to the museum, they will also receive a 2017 Rally Plaque, and, new for 2017, in memory on long-standing member and bus enthusiast Mick Rolley, the railway is hoping to introduce a special award which will be presented at the bus rally. On the day, visitors will be able to arrive by Heritage Bus Link from Aylesbury Vale Parkway railway station.

If you would be interested in exhibiting your bus at our Bus Rally, please contact Louis Richards on 01296 655720.

For further information contact the Railway by e-mail: marketing@bucksrailcentre.org. Tel: 01296 655720. See our website: www.bucksrailcentre.org or visit our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/BucksRailCentre/> or write to us at: Buckinghamshire Railway Centre, Station Road, Quainton, HP22 4BY.



Oxford Diecast announces new bus model for 2017

Oxford Diecast has recently announced another new model in its growing range of 4mm diecast bus models, the Saunders Roe-bodied underfloor-engined single-decker. The first release will be a Leyland Tiger Cub in Ribble livery. The expected release date is during 'Quarter 2', catalogue reference is 76SB001 and the RRP is £18.75.

Other highlights in the 2017 range are for 'Quarter 1' a Duple Roadmaster in Wye Valley Motors livery, (76DR003), a Bristol MW coach with 1962 style ECW body in Royal Blue colours (76MW001), an AEC Reliance/Plaxton Panorama 1 in Sheffield United Tours livery (76PAN005), another in Bere Regis & District livery (76PAN006) and an AEC Reliance/Weymann Fanfare in Greenslades colours (76WFA005). In 2mm scale there will be the SUT Plaxton Panorama 1 (NPP005) and a New Routemaster in Go Ahead London Central colours (NNR002).

Looking ahead to 'Quarter 2', releases include an East Kent Beadle Integral (76BI001), a Scania/Irizar i6 in Translink Goldline (76IR6001) livery, a Bristol MW/ECW coach in Hants & Dorset livery

(76MW002), a Samuel Ledgard Leyland PD2/12 (76PD2004), an Edinburgh Leyland PD2/12 (76PD2005) and a Birch Bros Weymann Fanfare (76WFA006). Not a bus but bus related is a Mobile booking

trailer in Southdown livery (76TR014). In N gauge another pair of New Routemasters, London United (silver) (NNR003) and London United (Coca-Cola advert) (NNR004CC).



Bachmann releases EFE back catalogue models

Following its acquisition of Exclusive First Editions (EFE) in the last part of 2016, Bachmann has now released details of its projected release programme of previously announced EFE models.

January: Leyland 6RT in Barton livery, February: Leyland PD1 in East Kent livery, March: Bristol VRT (flat screen) in City of Oxford livery, April: Harrington Grenadier in Maidstone & District livery, May: AEC Routemaster in London Transport livery (Route 177) and July: Harrington Cavalier in Southdown livery. The June release is a commercial vehicle.

This release schedule suggests one release per month although I understand that Bachmann is aiming for two releases per month with no further reworking/overprinting of existing models, the already advertised Greater Manchester PTE AEC Renown and the

Huddersfield Daimler Fleetline will not now appear apparently. The release programme above appears to have 'lost' a red London Transport RT and the City of Oxford Bristol VRT for March has already appeared (no sign of the Barton RTL) so we might have to 'watch this space'.

It would also appear that Bachmann intend in future to distribute models via their existing model railway dealer network rather than through wholesalers. Clearance of some of the stock from the former Gilbow Enfield warehouse is underway with models being allocated to stockists on a regional basis.



Crich latest

The National Tramway Museum at Crich Tramway Village is delighted to announce that it has been granted funding towards the renovation and improvement of the display of tramcar exhibits in permanent galleries and exhibition spaces.

The Museum's collections are amongst the most comprehensive, illustrating tramcars and tramway history throughout the world. All of the Museum's collections are designated as being of National importance. At the core of the collection is the tramcar and associated works vehicle collection which comprises over 70 historic vehicles.

There have been growing concerns for the ability of the main exhibition areas, which date back to the 1960s, to protect the nationally designated collection long-term and present it appropriately to the Museum's visitors.

A proposal for funding had been put forward for a new, fully insulated roof, insulated doors, partition walling and extra wall insulation. In addition, new interpretation panels and greatly improved lighting are required to enhance the

visitor experience.

The estimated total fund for the project is £400,000, but thanks to the DCMS/ Wolfson Museums & Galleries Improvement Fund 2016-18, the project has taken a significant step forward, as the National Tramway Museum has been offered £100,000 towards the project for 2017/18.

Said a spokesperson: 'Whilst the largest part of the funding will go towards the renovation of the roof, a proportion of the funding will also go towards improving the interpretation that we provide for our visitors. We will be redisplaying some of the smaller artefacts which are currently on display, but lack any interpretation for what they are and how they relate to the large tramcar exhibits, as well as incorporating some new items from our stores. There will be a "trams running today" area, where visitors can read about the trams being demonstrated at the Museum, when they are visiting.'



CRICH
TRAMWAY
VILLAGE

Two new part-time posts have been created at Crich Tramway Village to enable The National Tramway Museum to explore new ways of working and to become more resilient.

Laura Smith, 33, (left in photo) from Wirksworth has been appointed Fund Raising and Development Officer, while Rachael Fisher, 31, also from Wirksworth, has taken on the role of Events Co-ordinator.

Laura has previously worked in a similar role at the Peak District Mining Museum, while Rachael has her own business in marketing and PR. The posts are part of a project, which will not only conduct a governance and strategy review, but also undertake a training programme for volunteers to be able to deliver audience research and design both in-house and external print and e-communications.

Crich Tramway Village opens daily, 18 March– 5 November 2017 between 10.00 and 17.30 (last admissions 16.00).

Whippet Citybus saved

A 1989 Volvo Citybus withdrawn by Cambridgeshire operator Whippet following more than 25 years service

has been saved for preservation locally. Northern Counties-bodied H303 CAV operated until last year when it was

delicensed due to forthcoming Disability Discrimination Act legislation affecting step-entrance vehicles.

The bus, which featured in *B&CP*, February, was due to be collected by a dealer but it was agreed that the bus could be sold for preservation to a consortium of Eastern Bus Enthusiasts (EBE) group members. H303 CAV now has a new preservation home in Cambridgeshire and will be among the stars of the Group's Fenland Busfest on Sunday 21 May.

Commented EBE spokesman Stephen Longmire: 'This bus is historically important locally as well as being a fine machine in its own right. We are very grateful to everyone who has gone out of their way to make its preservation possible.'

Whippet engineering manager Scott Nicholetti said: 'A lot of people here are very pleased to see this bus saved for preservation.' Further details of Eastern Bus Enthusiasts via easternbusgroup.co.uk



London Transport VAL

A Plaxton Panorama-bodied Bedford VAL14, new to Homerton Coaches, London E9 in April 1967 as RUW 990E and later used by London Transport as a test vehicle to evaluate the twin-steer design for the XRM project to design a low-floor eight-wheeled London bus, has recently appeared for sale on eBay.

After service with Homerton Coaches, the VAL passed to Alexandra of Enfield in

November 1968 and then to Sampson of Cheshunt in March 1974. It was acquired by London Transport c1976 as an experimental vehicle as previously mentioned, and was later used as staff transport after which it appears to have been sold to a scrap dealer which sold it on for use as a caravan. For some reason (possibly because RUW 990E had been declared scrap), it was re-registered in June 1981 as a Leyland (!)

with the registration number KBD 453Y. At about that time it was recorded with Davey of Kingsthorpe as a caravan, later passing to Philip Ives of Olney who was going to take the engine out for use in a crane before breaking the coach up on site but changed his mind when a friend, Michael Knighton of Wellingborough, spotted it and wrote a letter to the Bedford Owners' Club magazine 'Centre Section' stating it was for sale at £600.

Geoff Cochrane, a well-known Cambridgeshire VAL enthusiast spotted the coach and purchased it. The VAL was recovered from Olney in July 1999 to Geoff's home in Christchurch, Cambridgeshire, subsequently appearing at the 1999 Bedford Gathering at Dews Coaches, Somersham. Unfortunately Geoff never got round to restoring it and following a move to Young's yard at Haddenham in October 2015, it was sold in early January 2017 to an unknown owner in Uckfield, East Sussex who immediately put it on eBay. The auction ended on 27 January with a bid of £707, but with the reserve not met, the VAL remained unsold at that time. It has since reappeared on eBay with a starting price of £1,950. Report and Picture: JOHN WAKEFIELD



2017 Leyland Society Gathering

The Society is pleased to announce that the 2017 Leyland Society Gathering will be held at the Old Warden Aerodrome site of the Shuttleworth Trust near Biggleswade, Bedfordshire on Sunday 9 July 2017. The site is both an operational airfield and also the home of the well-known Shuttleworth Collection of vintage aircraft, many of which are maintained in flying condition. In addition to aircraft on display, visitors can tour the comprehensive workshops where aircraft from the collection are undergoing restoration or maintenance. Alongside the airfield there is an extensive Swiss Garden which is an outstanding example of the Regency style of landscape gardens. The Society hopes that this new venue, in a more southerly location, will permit vehicle owners and enthusiasts who have not been able to attend previous events at Leyland the opportunity to join the annual Gathering. The site has a large area of hard standing opposite the main hangars for the vehicle display and there is a café where refreshments can be purchased.

Normal entry charges will apply on the day and will cover the vehicle display, aircraft collection or Swiss Gardens. Two free tickets will be provided for each vehicle entry and additional tickets will be available to purchase at the normal rate on arrival.



Vehicle entry forms will be available to download from the Society website or by sending an SAE to Gary Dwyer, 8 St Mary's Close, West Street, Sompting, Lancing, West Sussex, BN15 0AF. Overnight parking for entrants will be available on Saturday and Sunday if required, but this must be specified in advance on the vehicle entry form. All Leylands, including any non-society members who wish to bring their vehicle, will be extended a warm welcome.

The Leyland Society has been going from strength to strength since its

formation in 1998 and members receive five high quality publications each year. Leyland Society Torque is distributed quarterly and contains shorter articles on the activities of Leyland Motors and this is supplemented by an annual volume, *Leyland Society Journal*, which contains in-depth articles on the Company's products.

Membership and event details can be found at www.leylandsociety.co.uk. For further information about the Shuttleworth collection, visit www.shuttleworth.org

Yorkshire Air Museum Heritage Bus Rally

The Yorkshire Air Museum is holding its biennial Heritage Bus Rally in association with Thornes Independent Coachways at Hemingborough on Sunday 1 October this year. Thornes will organise entries expected to be around 30 classic coaches. The event itself consists of a Heritage Run culminating at the Museum. In the past, there have been excursions to the nearby Derwent Light Railway centre.

The Allied Air Forces Memorial and Yorkshire Air Museum is at Elvington, York, YO41 4AU. Further details can be found at www.yorkshireairmuseum.org, by telephoning 01904 608595 or e-mail: museum@yorkshireairmuseum.org



Go North East low-floor Volvo preserved

A low-floor Volvo B10BLE, new to Go North East has joined the ranks of preserved vehicles.

Wright Renown V987 ETN has been bought directly from the operator by well-known local preservationist Jonathan

Ruddick. New in January 2000, it received branding for the 765/766 route from Consett to Durham. The bus replaced refurbished Leyland Nationals and was based for most of its career at Stanley depot, later receiving 'Lime' branded livery for the Consett to Sunderland route, even being adapted to carry pedal cycles. The B10BLE currently wears the all-over red Go North East corporate livery.

Explained Jonathan: 'This B10BLE was my regular bus to college and work. I rode it on its first morning in service back in January 2000. It spent almost 15 years as our local bus. I generally find the Volvo B10BLE/Wright Renowns to be nice vehicles. I've always wanted to add 4897 to my collection of preserved buses, and during the summer of 2016, the B10BLEs suddenly started to be withdrawn at quite a rapid rate. I approached the management at Go North East in September to express my interest in the bus and within just four weeks, the bus was withdrawn and sold to me. Go North East have been fantastic about the new project, even assisting by installing original spec Hanover flip dot destinations programmed with the buses original route destinations.'

Long term, Jonathan hopes to restore the Volvo in the blue/red/yellow livery worn when new.

Pictures: JONOTHAN RUDDICK



Plymouth Dart preserved

Jason Beverley of the Plymouth City Transport Preservation Group has secured Plymouth Citybus Plaxton Pointer-bodied Dennis Dart SLF No 27 (S127 FTA) for preservation. The bus is unique in being the only S-registered Vehicle delivered

to Plymouth. It is also the only Dart SLF delivered in green and yellow Super Park & Rider' livery, although sister vehicles 25/6 were repainted in the same livery later.

The bus arrived on 30 December 1998 but did not enter service until 2 January

1999, and was withdrawn on 30 August 2016. Jason would like to acknowledge the kind support given by Plymouth city bus in this venture.

Pictures: PLYMOUTH CITYBUS/JASON BEVERLEY



OB returns to home county

This very special Bedford OB/Duple Vista was new to Wiffens, in the picturesque village of Finchingfield, Essex in 1951, the Festival of Britain year, an event which prompted various operators to specify quarter lights in the roof cants of coaches to give passengers the chance to view the extensive decorations in the city of London.

Wiffens was convinced that providing a double or even better 'treble 777' registration was a distinctive and lucky trend. Many others followed, the last being RAR 777W, a Ford R1114/Plaxton Supreme IV in 1980 when the trend ceased, the company continuing to trade until 1998. So SEV 777 is a reminder of the days when Local Vehicle Licensing Offices such as Chelmsford co-operated with bus and coach operators to achieve various preferences or to align with a fleet numbering system.

Following a decade in storage at

Finchingfield, SEV 777 passed to Dick Sworder at Walkern near Stevenage, where the coach still in Wiffens attractive duo green livery, was to be dry stored for a further decade, Dick intending to restore the OB to match the high standard of presentation of his Volvo/Plaxton coach fleet, one of which was the Tottenham Hotspur FC team coach.

Next owner was William Hunter of Tarleton between Preston and Southport. Here the Essex OB was joined by three others sourced from a variety of counties: DUD 522, new to Taylors, Bicester Oxon; ETL 373, new to the Delaine, Bourne, Lincs and MYA 525, new to Wakes, Sparkford, Somerset. Mr Hunter also owned some preserved goods vehicles, and following his death, the entire collection became available for sale.

An offer from Jonathan Benson, a working member of the family firm, Brentwood Coaches of Hutton, Essex was

duly accepted for SEV 777, still in original duo-green Wiffens livery bringing the OB back to Essex following 30 years absence. Even better the coach is now based less than 20 miles from its original home.

Around 80% of the timber framework needed renewal and new glazing was installed throughout. The 28hp petrol engine was removed, rebuilt and replaced painted red. All of the seating was recovered with a period swirl pattern green of a style normally fitted by Duple at Hendon. Finally a re-spray in Brentwood Coaches originally cream and brown and appropriate lettering as applied to the company fleet WHM (Brentwood) Ltd, in the postwar years has produced a prize winning example of a 29-seat Bedford OB/Duple Vista. The superbly restored coach made a public debut at the Canvey Island rally and open day on 9 October last.

Report and pictures: GEOFF R. MILLS



Debuting at Tilford

At the Tilford Bus & Coach Rally, due to be held on 28 May 2017, organiser Ray le Mesurier Foster has advised that, in addition to the former Aldershot & District Dennis E chassis of OT 8902 making its public debut, he has also secured the Vintage Mobile Cinema (www.vintagemobilecinema.co.uk) for the day - this will be showing vintage Pathe transport films of around 20 minutes duration. The Dennis E chassis dates from

1928 and was rescued from inside a house in Walton on Thames some years ago and has been restored by members of ADORR (Aldershot & District Omnibuses Rescue & Restoration).

The rally will be held at the Rural Life Centre, Reeds Road, Tilford, nr Farnham, Surrey GU10 2DL and includes some classic cars and other vehicles and a steam train operating together with stalls etc. There will be a free vintage bus service

from Farnham Station (down platform) to the event and return. Parking is also free although there is an admission charge to the Museum Complex including the Rally.

Applications for buses, coaches, stalls, and anything else can be made to: randmlemfoster@btinternet.com or by telephone: 01252 311414. ADORR have a website: www.adorrs.co.uk



Quantock latest

Barton's Duple-bodied Leyland PD1s are surely amongst the most elegant double-deckers ever built. Now as PHILIP LAMB reports, one is back on the road.

In the early postwar years Barton Transport took delivery of 91 new Duple-bodied Leylands. The order was split between single- and double-deckers, 50 and 41 respectively, the 50 coaches, some of them designated dual-purpose, were Duple 'A's, whilst the double-deckers, Leyland Titans were well-appointed lowbridge buses with forward-entrances based on a design supplied to Barton on TD5 chassis before the war, itself derived from a Willowbrook body fitted to an AEC Regent, a secondhand purchase acquired from Campions of Nottingham.

IMPRESSIVE STYLING

The styling is impressive, the wide, electrically-operated forward-entrance doors reveal, when opened, two steep steps leading to the staircase on the left, with equally easy access to the lower saloon on the right. Being a lowbridge bus the virtually straight staircase soon reaches the upper saloon: turn left to access the front bench seat and right for the rest of the benches arranged in conventional lowbridge style. At first it all seems a bit back-to-front, but it soon becomes apparent that the layout makes excellent use of the space, providing at the same time good access, such as is at all possible in a lowbridge bus. Although the seats are to a bus design, the interior is in general coach-like with lashings of Rexine and moquette.

The coach theme is repeated on the outside of the bus with plenty of decorative brightwork, illuminated panels and elegantly flared skirts. These buses were in many ways the beginning of a trend which would culminate in Barton's almost exclusive use of grant coaches across its entire network in its latter years as an independent operator.

New in 1947/48, the Titans, a mixture of PD1s and PD1As, at first became associated with the important Nottingham–Derby routes, but as time went by, they were prone to turn up almost anywhere across the network on relief and contract duties as well as on normal service work. The last of the Titans came off service in 1973, having seen 25 years service. Their late departure meant that they were excellent candidates



Left: Few could deny that the Barton Leyland PDIs were amongst the most elegant double-deckers ever built. Newly completed No 467 (JNN 384) pauses at Fillongley church near Nuneaton. PHILIP LAMB

Above: Given the advertising message this must be 1971, and No 467 still has a couple of years to go before withdrawal. Strangely enough, the bus looks better with a painted radiator shell — well we think so anyway! PRESBUS ARCHIVE

Top right: Major progress! Radiator rebuilt, bus repanelled. DAVE ALLEN

Right: Chassis and suspension resilvered. SCOTT PAYNE

Far right: E181 engine rebuilt and looking like new again. SCOTT PAYNE

Below: Recessed windscreen is said to be inspired by contemporary Midland Red styling. Impressive too are those sliding doors guarding the wide forward entrance. PHILIP LAMB



for preservation, the movement having already established itself. Today five examples are known to survive, No 473 (JNN 384) being at this moment in time the only fully operational example.

OUT OF SERVICE

No 473 was withdrawn in May 1973 and sold to a Mr B. Bunker for preservation. The bus remained with Mr Bunker for just over four years, being acquired by a Mr P. Cook for continued preservation. Early in 1998, however, No 473 had a new owner in the shape of one of the then British Bus Preservation Group leading lights, Philip Welsh. A new era began in May 2004 when the Titan became part of Steven Morris's Quantock Heritage fleet.

It was evident that a good deal of work was needed to return the bus to its former glory. A complete strip down revealed the need for extensive reframing. With this duly completed, repainting followed.

The bus was completely rewired with new floors and ceilings installed. Much of the interior wood trim was replaced and new glazing installed. The interior was completely retrimmed keeping as closely

as possible to the original spec materials; the seat frames being rechromed, whilst correct spec moquette was acquired from Ward Jones. Said restoration team member. Peter Snowden: 'A lot of new techniques were learnt such as fitting moquette to double curvature panels in the upper-deck front and rear domes'.

Continued Peter: 'Understanding how

the sliding door mechanism worked and then getting it to function was the cause of much head scratching. Working out how the drop-down windows worked was also a challenge. Very complex — a lot of wires, springs and pulleys are involved. All in all it is a very complicated vehicle, very labour intensive to build — perhaps there was a reaction to the utility vehicles





Left: **Rear view reveals more coach-derived detail, and the first-aid box.**

Below: **Bodywork is five-bay but appears fussier! Vehicle is extremely well proportioned for a lowbridge bus.**

Bottom left to right: **Lower deck looks extremely inviting. First aid box can be accessed from inside or out, and just look at those evocative lights!**

Upper-deck detail shows moquette at close quarters.

Moquette, moquette, moquette! Passenger's eye view upon descending the stairs. All: PHILIP LAMB

of only a few years before. The number of screws just to hold the exterior mouldings doesn't bear thinking about!

Mechanically, the engine was rebuilt, the radiator rebuilt and a new exhaust fabricated. The brakes were subject to a complete overhaul.

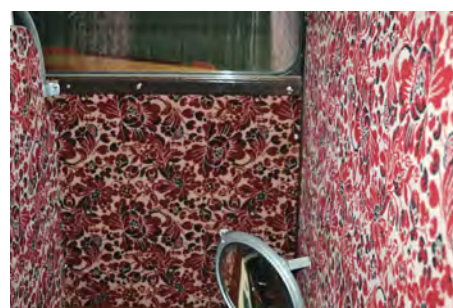
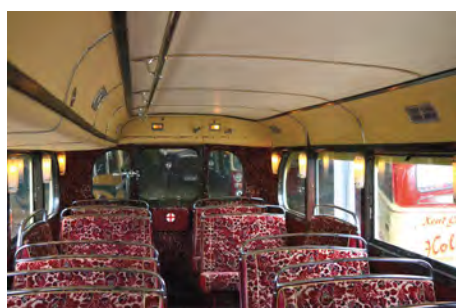
Painting was carried out by Quantock's in-house painter Scott Payne, whilst John Corah made a fine job of the signwriting.

ON THE ROAD

The impressive appearance of the vehicle is easily matched by the quality of the ride. Whilst in no hurry and as noisy as expected, the Leyland E181 is perfectly set up, its tickover self-timed to perfection. Bodywork is rattle free and the invitingly upholstered seats are indeed as comfortable as they look. One or two finishing touches remain, but here is a restoration that does

'just what it says on the tin', transporting you back to a world altogether dominated by a slower pace of life leading to passengers saying: 'Who care's when we get there, just sit back and enjoy the old-fashioned comfort and atmosphere!'

Our thanks to Steven Morris, Peter Snowden, Roger Burdett and John Arnold for their assistance in the preparation of this feature.





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BARTON



Join us in
a trip back
in time, Barton style.

We begin our journey with another of the five Duple-bodied Leyland Titan survivors. Seen here in its service days is No 473 (JRR 404) a 1947 Leyland PDIA, now preserved at The Transport Museum, Wythall, but not currently on the road. Pictures: PRESBUS ARCHIVE

Coaches were frequently used on service work, a blessing to passengers when it came to some of the longer routes. No 747 (SVO 546), a 1955 Plaxton Venturer II-bodied AEC Reliance, was, following withdrawal by Barton, sold to Advance Road Ways of Goole.

One of 16 former Leicester 1946 highbridge all-Leyland PDIs purchased in 1959, No 844 (DJF 339) was originally numbered 238 in the Leicester fleet. It is seen here at Long Eaton in 1969.

The most famous Barton bus — ever! No 861 (861 HAL) is the unique 1961 Dennis Loline II with Northern Counties 68-seat lowbridge body. The lowheight chassis and lowbridge-style body makes No 861 lower in height than any other double-decker built for use in the UK. It remained a 'one-off' and is today preserved as part of the Barton Collection.



During the 1950s and 1960s a comprehensive programme of rebuilding and/or rebodding took place, particularly during the winter months when coaching activities were quiet. Barton rebuilt not only its own vehicles but also sourced vehicles with life-expired bodies mounted on still-serviceable chassis. Seen here is No 907 (907 LVO) rebuilt as a Barton BTD2/I Northern Counties from Yorkshire Woollen Brush-bodied Leyland PD2/I HD 7837 in 1961. The Northern Counties body clearly relying on styling borrowed from Southdown's Leyland PD3/4s.



No 959 (959 PRR), a 1963 70-seat Northern Counties-bodied AEC Regent V was amongst the last buses built to Barton's standard forward-entrance, lowbridge layout which dated from prewar days and was inspired by the secondhand purchase of former Campions of Nottingham Willowbrook-bodied AEC Regent built in this style. No 959 was later sold to Bedlington & District.



Many operators have benefited from London Transport's early withdrawal of what it considered non-standard types. During the mid-1960s Barton acquired 25 former LT Leyland PD2/1s — 24 7RTs and a solitary 6RT, in looks at any rate, considerably modernising the double-deck fleet. Seen here is No 1111 (OLD 796), formerly RTL1577, which operated out of Ilkeston garage. New in 1954 with Park Royal body, but stored until 1958, OLD 796 entered service at Middle Row, Kensington garage during that year.





Seen in Ilkeston, No 1116 (212 JUS) was one of a pair of Park Royal-bodied AEC Renowns new to Smith of Barrhead in 1963. They came to Barton in 1968 upon Western SMT's acquisition of Smith's routes.

Hall Bros of South Shields ran an express service from the North East to Coventry calling at Nottingham. Barton acquired the company in 1967, its vehicles running initially with dual fleetnames. Seen here is Plaxton Panorama-bodied Leyland Leopard ECU 755E delivered earlier that year. Following service with Barton, the coach was sold to Great Wyrley High School.



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DAVID JUKES welcomes you to *B&CP's* newest feature and presents a selection of older buses and coaches seen on the UK's roads this January.



NEW YEAR'S SPLASH

Where better to start than Oxford Bus Museum's New Year's bus running day on 1 January 2017? Seen on the A4095 Main Road at Long Hanborough is preserved G727 XDL, a 1990 dual-purpose all-Leyland Olympian new to Southern Vectis, but later operated by fellow Go South Coast subsidiary Damory Coaches before passing to Carter's Coach Services of Ipswich. Seen at the same location, but turning into the access road towards the Museum and Hanborough railway station is former City of Oxford No 371 (FWL 371E), a 1967 Northern Counties-bodied AEC Renown — the last Renown built, which forms part of the Oxford Bus Museum's own collection. Heading to Oxford Parkway shortly after departing the Museum is Grayline of Bicester MJ1 1678, a 1999 Jonckheere Monaco-bodied MAN 24.350 low-floor double-deck coach which was new as Oxford Tube No 57 (T57 BBW). The other ex-City of Oxford double-deck bus operating the day's free heritage services was the Museum's 304 (304 KFC), a 1961 East Lancs-bodied Dennis Loline II, seen here in Long Hanborough approaching the Museum's access road. Soon following is one of the Museum's more recent additions — former Oxford Bus Company No 605 (N605 FJO), a 1995 Plaxton Verde-bodied Volvo B10B-58.

Pictures: DAVID JUKES





WEST STREET RUNNERS

Chichester's West Street is a very short walk from your 'On the Road' compiler's office and a regular venue for lunchtime bus photography sessions. Laying over on 10 January is Sussex Coaches' KIG 3430, a 1989 Mercedes Benz 811D-based Optare StarRider new to Redwing Coaches of London SE24 registered F790 DWT. Passing through heavy rain two days later is Heritage Coaches of Henfield (West Sussex) 4885 UR, a 1998 Neoplan Skyliner N122/3 new to Kings Ferry of Gillingham as its No 74 (R542 YKO). Standing out from the ranks of Stagecoach South buses in the city is the West Sussex County Council-tendered route 54 between Chichester and Petersfield which is currently run by Emsworth & District of Southbourne. One of its regular performers is R173 VLA, a dual-door 1998 Plaxton Pointer 2-bodied Dennis Dart SLF new to Metroline of London as its DLD73, seen on 25 January (nearside) and 31 January (offside). It was originally operated by Emsworth & District on the Broadmarsh Shuttle in Havant, for which the blue skirt, lime green band and above-side window lettering were applied onto its existing London red livery (hence the retained DLD73 fleet numbers). Another regular is T527 AOB, a 1999 Plaxton Pointer 2-bodied Dennis Dart SLF new to Arriva Midlands North as its No 527. It most unusually retains unblemished Arriva corporate livery as most buses and coaches leaving that company's employ were daubed with paint to ensure their new owners had to repaint them before use.

Pictures: DAVID JUKES

NOTE: You may notice we have been a little flexible with the 20+/- year age of service buses and coaches in this On the Road compilation. We are happy to continue thus and will consider pictures of pre-2000 service buses and coaches for inclusion in future editions. DAVID JUKES



TUBE EXTRAS

Monday 9 January saw a number of heritage vehicles back on London's roads owing to an Underground strike; additional vehicles were deployed on key routes to assist the morning and evening commutes. Operating on route 205 between Aldgate and Paddington were this pair of AEC Routemasters from the Red Routemaster fleet. Rear-entrance RMI357 (357 CLT), new to London Transport in 1962, is seen near Warren Street while forward entrance RMA58 (NMY 655E), new to British European Airways in 1967 and later owned by London Transport (with which it gained its current fleetnumber), is seen outside Paddington's District & Circle Line Underground station building, rebuilt in 1914/15 to a style typical of the Metropolitan Railway's Chief Architect C. W. Clark. Pictures: TOM GRAHAM



NOT ALWAYS O.K.!

Running classic coaches, reactivating OK Motor Services and acquiring a unique and magnificent AEC is a true enthusiast's dream come true. But Tim Philips has suffered many setbacks as NICK LARKIN reports.

Let's begin with the positives, as here is a tale involving many setbacks, which, if televised, would have many *B&CP* readers hiding behind the sofa like 1960s children watching *Doctor Who*'s many dangerous predicaments.

OK OK!

Cambridgeshire accountant Tim Phillips admits to having been extremely naïve and learned many lessons in his transition from enthusiast to an operator of classic coaches.

Since we last caught up with him 18 months ago, Tim has reactivated the OK Motor Services company, seemingly part

of the fabric of the North East from its establishment in 1912 to its purchase by Go-Ahead in 1995, being absorbed a couple of years later.

Tim bought the then-dormant OK Motor Services Ltd company name from a Welsh operator who had never used it, and on 25 May 2016 was awarded an operator's licence.

OK Motor Services Ltd, now with Cambridgeshire address of course, could not have appeared on a more appropriate vehicle: Tim's Plaxton Supreme VI-bodied Leyland Tiger LFT 5X, new to OK with sisters LFT 1-4/6X in 1982.

As previously reported this vehicle is now gleaming in original OK guise following a massive body restoration which saw, as Tim recalls, 'just about everything below the windows renewed'.

Tim had been interested in buses and coaches since he was at school. 'We lived at Bottisham, halfway between Newmarket and Cambridge. We used Eastern Counties buses and it was two journeys to school. We had Bristol Lodekka FSs and later VRTs, and FLFs,' Tim recalls.

A NEW START

'Beer, girls and jazz' eventually pushed PSVs from his mind, but in 2012 he attended a bus driving day organised by Ashley Wakelin of Midland Red Coaches fame and was hooked.

'That evening I came home and started looking for a vehicle on eBay, eventually finding the Tiger,' he recalls. I tend to do these things on impulse and had thought it would be really fun to have a coach to use on high days and holidays. I never expected to become an operator,' Tim remembers.

As previously reported, the OK Tiger turned out to need major bodywork, which cost a lot of money. The results looked magnificent, and the coach was greatly admired when it appeared with



Opposite: **OK so there are two now!**
Tim Phillips 1981 Leyland Tiger has
been joined by a 1971 ex-Glenton Tours
Plaxton Elite II-bodied AEC Reliance.
 TIM PHILLIPS.

Right: **The Leyland Tiger with the original**
OK Motor Services in 1991.
 TIM PHILLIPS COLLECTION

Class V MoT at Showbus 2015. 'When I submitted it for MoT it was a quarter of a ton heavier than before, so much of the rusty metal had been replaced,' Tim recalls.

Now, OK Motor Services has a second vehicle, a new to Glenton Tours centre-entrance 1971 AEC Reliance EUU 117J, which had been used by subsequent operators on continental tours well into the 21st century.

More on this vehicle and its unique luxury specification shortly, but now we have to bring bad tidings.

At the time of writing OK Motor Services has not operated a single commercial private hire. Despite the huge amount of bodywork restoration, taking the coach for a Class 6 test revealed a massive problem. 'DB Restorations did a superb job, but I didn't ask it to look at the underside of the coach,' Tim recalls. 'It turned out that the "floor irons" to which the seats are bolted are completely shot. This means they will have to be replaced and it's a huge job,' says Tim. 'The floor and seats will have to come out. I think I've found someone to do the work, but until everything is taken apart no-one can say how much will be needed. Yet the coach passed a Class 5 MoT like this so legally I can drive it at 62mph full of people.'

Tim wondered whether he should basically abandon the Tiger. 'Once again I went to my family and they said I couldn't give up, although my wife, Rosie did say she would leave me if I bought another coach, but, as it turned out, there has been an exception to the rule.'

The Tiger's immaculate bodywork still hides sins. Rotten 'floor irons', a massive headache will involve the removal of the floor and seats to replace. TIM PHILLIPS.



AEC Reliance EUU 117J was new in 1970 to London-based Glenton Tours as a 38-seater continuing the operator's longstanding tradition of specifying centre-entrance vehicles.

GLENTON TOURS

Glenton was formed in 1929 when one Mr J. F. Saxton, an estate agent and JP, acquired some coaches as payment for a debt. He realised the potential and pioneered European coach travel before World War 2, during which the entire fleet was commandeered by the authorities.

The operator returned with a vengeance postwar, and for the next 40 years or so was known as one of the country's most prestigious tour operators, providing holidays mainly in the British Isles and the Irish republic with most of its customers booking from abroad. Having run AECs for many years and later experiencing problems with Leyland, Glenton switched to Volvo running a fleet of 34 Plaxton-bodied examples in the early 1980s. Glenton was never cheap, but customers were said to get the best

'They were top of the tree' says Clive Screaton, who operated several former Glenton vehicles in an extraordinary coaching operation, later becoming EUU 117J's saviour. Now 88, Clive originally drove coaches on a freelance basis before working at G. Naylor & Sons of Stockton Heath for 15 years, later becoming tour manager for Walkers Coaches of Northwich. In 1982 he set up his own company, Grand Edwardian Tours. 'I had been inspired by Glenton's quality, knowing many of its drivers and admiring

its coaches when they stayed at a hotel near here. I was very sad when Glenton ceased trading in the early 1990s. I think it was as a result of undercutting by other operators.'

Clive operated several former Glenton vehicles including Plaxton Panorama-bodied AEC Reliance PYM 106F, which he'd owned and rallied before setting up in business. Sister vehicles PYM 108F and MMH 126L also joined the fleet, which travelled around Britain and Europe including Norway.

REGENCY ROAD

Clive decided to sell Grand Edwardian, but his daughter Sarah, who had grown up with the business, established the Regency Road Pullman Touring Company, which ran its first tour in 1998. EUU 117J was tracked down by Clive shortly afterwards. 'It was in a garage at Wigan, and a man called Jackson owned it'.

Major work was carried out on the coach, much of it at Reliance Bus Works in Stoke, equipping it for challenging journeys, including tours to Russia. Work included the fitting of a kitchen area complete with courier seat, five tables with lamps, a storage area and 28 seats, the front eight of which are reclining.

'Despite their age, we never had an AEC failing to get us home,' Sarah recalled. Indeed EUU 117J still bears a plaque inside recalling its most ambitious trip, a 29-day tour though Russia, Scandinavia, Poland, Germany and Holland in May 2006. Not bad for a 35-year-old, justifying its operator's claim of being 'possibly the only tour operator of its type in the world'.



However, a variety of reasons including an ageing if still loyal clientele and Sarah having just got married and needing a 'normal life' prompted the sale of the business to Manchester based Go Goodwins, with Sarah working with the new owner for a while. As the front-line vehicle, AEC Reliance EUU 117J was sent to Bridlington to receive a thorough Cobus makeover. Work required included new framework in the step area and new bodybearers. The coach was repainted in Goodwin's heritage livery and the seats retrimmed.

A change of emphasis at Goodwins saw EUU 117J going to auction, passing to Brian Collins of CM Travel at Flint Cross, near Royston, who, with OK Leyland Tiger LFT 5X being off the road, kindly let Tim Phillips borrow it for a charity event. 'Rosie was charmed by the AEC and decided to make an exception to the

Top: OK's latest acquisition, Plaxton Elite II-bodied AEC Reliance EUU 117J is easily capable of 70mph.

Inset, clockwise from top left: A view of the well-appointed interior with rear galley.

Table and table lamp just like home!

Reliance has six-speed manual gearbox.

The 12.4-litre AEC AH760 engine.

Extra set of batteries and electrics needed to cope with demands of kitchen.

All: NICK LARKIN

rule. It was for sale and I could have it'.

EUU 117J now proudly wears OK logos and legal lettering but retains in Go Goodwins blue and white colours'. The Reliance's 12-litre AEC 760 engine is mated to a six-speed gearbox. Says Tim: 'The coach is happy cruising at 65mph and isn't governed, so I'm sure it would do 70 on the motorway.' As well as a normal 24 volt electrical system there is an inverter and two extra batteries for a 240-volt secondary circuit. 'This means that boiling the kettle doesn't mean we can't start the coach afterwards.'

Class 6 MoT'd, EUU 117J is available for private bookings, though Tim is keen for these to take place when he has access to a standby vehicle.

LESSONS LEARNED

The road from enthusiast to operator has, to put it mildly, been rocky for Tim Phillips, an accountant by trade. Is he angry and/or disappointed? 'I'm not angry,' Tim insists. 'If you let yourself get down due to frustration in the world of bus preservation you might as well never even think about getting involved. These bridges are there to be crossed.'

'When I first bought the Tiger, the first two professionals with any engineering knowledge to look at it asked why I didn't want to start with something better, but I persisted. I was so naïve then, I thought these things were like the Forth Bridge —

you only had to keep them going.'

Talking of operators, Tim is extremely grateful for the help and support has received from local coach companies, some of which he drives for. 'I have really come to appreciate what is behind a contemporary smaller bus and coach operation. Come and spend a day with an operator. Some vehicles may appear tatty but they are good, sound workhorses.'

'One local operator said he did 139 movements of schoolchildren, which would need 85 drivers to be there on a freezing, dark, February morning. The coach has to be warm and working. People will be out there now in the freezing cold with hosepipes trying to keep coaches clean. One of the jobs I've been doing for other operators recently involves going to three small villages to pick up schoolchildren. One morning it was minus six -6 degrees, but an hour and a half later you have delivered 50 or 60 warm schoolchildren safely to school. I am proud that I can do that.'

THE FUTURE

Tim wouldn't wish to use either OK vehicle on such duties but reckons that if both were on the road for the 2018 season it would take around eight years for them to recoup their costs. He also hopes to fulfil a promise to take the Tiger to the Teesside-based 500 Group's running day and run it over some old OK routes.



Above: **OK Motor Services proprietor Tim Phillips demonstrates Reliance unusual driver's step arrangement.**

Below: **Glenton Tours continued with centre entrance coaches into the 1980s. Centre door arrangement means better view for front seat passengers.**

Both: NICK LARKIN

Overall, Tim loves what he is doing but has one major message for enthusiasts who might think of following in his footsteps: 'Don't let your heart rule your head!' Thanks to Tim Phillips, Clive Screaton and daughter Sarah Phillips for their help with this feature.



A Bristol bonus

There would appear to be no vehicle better suited to non-PSV use than a Bristol. Here we look at examples from the prewar era through to the multitude of F-series Bristol Lodekkas which found favour with all sorts of folk from showmen to furniture salesmen, with a few others along the way!



Above: **Today one of the best-known vehicles in preservation now rebuilt in original form and repainted in prewar Bristol Tramways colours by the Bristol Vintage Bus Group in the 1970s, GHT 154 is a 1940 Bristol K5G with Bristol Tramways body. Sold off in 1954 to a fairground showman who removed the upper deck and stairs to use as a large van, it is seen here in July 1970. ROBERT EDWORTHY/PRESBUS ARCHIVE**



Above: **Many in Bristol will remember the 'Christmas Carol Bus' a converted 1955 Bristol KSW6B. Originally C8318 (UHY 358), but latterly W138 in the service fleet, the bus, which appeared in several guises over the years, is seen here in January 1983.**



Left: **Western SMT painted its training fleet in this depressing all-over grey livery. Seen lurking in the depths of Ayr garage in April 1983 is 1961 Bristol LD6G RAG 404 new as B1638. It was later sold to PSV training company Ritchie's Training.**

Both: PRESBUS ARCHIVE

Top: Another Western SMT training vehicle, GW7061 (VCS 376) is seen in April 1983 at Greenock. Formerly B1822, GW7061 is a 1963 Bristol FLF6G, whose registration lived on long after the bus was scrapped. Today it complements Stagecoach Western 50226, a former Oxford Tube Van Hool Astromega. PRESBUS ARCHIVE

Below left: Many Bristol Omnibus FLFs went on to fulfil non-PSV roles following withdrawal. Seen here in October 1976 is former LC8542 (572 HHY), a 1960 FLF6B in July 1977 in use by Elliotts Home Furnishers. It later passed to Ellman of Dagenham, Essex and was scrapped in 1980. PRESBUS ARCHIVE



AFTER THEY WERE FAMOUS



Above right: Strictly speaking Bristol Omnibus C7151 (844 SHW), a 1964 FLF6B, is an imposter here as it was at the time of this view still in service! However, we liked the picture, not least because of the Ford Lotus Cortina in the background . . . Haskins had stores in both Bristol and Shepton Mallett, and so this bus, normally employed on city services, also spent time in the Shepton Mallett area.

Left: The Littleworth Crusaders was a majorettes troupe based in Barnsley, which is where, in May 1985, we see its EGM 276C, a 1965 FLF6G formerly Central SMT BL276. Withdrawn by Central in 1979, the FLF also saw latter-day service with Top Deck Travel before being exported to Germany in 1995. Both: PRESBUS ARCHIVE



New to Midland General in 1966 as its 669, Northumbria Training bus JNU 989D had been one of seven Bristol FLF6Gs acquired by United from Trent in 1978. Seen in September 1987, JNU 989D was later used by private training company, Best Way.

New 1968 as United L252 FLF6G, SHN 252F was soon 'swapped' for a Scottish Omnibuses Bristol VRT becoming its AA999 in the process. Upon withdrawal this bus joined the Eastern Scottish training fleet, but in the years that followed took on a number of other roles including that of the Edinburgh Campaign Bus, as seen here in April 1987. A spell with Toolcomb Supplies of Dunfermline was followed by export to Germany in 2007.



Featured before on these pages, Walkers of Anderton ran a number of Lodekkas on contract work. Still in regular use despite numerous encounters with trees and other stationary objects the ruggedness of the breed appears well proven. Seen here in this August 1980 view are 184 XNO, a former Eastern National FLF6B new with coach seating for use on London services, and previously illustrated 716 GRM, an FS6B new to Cumberland as its No 556 in 1962. In 2000, Walkers became part of the Holmeswood Group which inherited both registrations. Struggling to attract the photographer's attention is former Wallasey Metro-Cammell-bodied Leyland Atlantean JHF 824.

All: PRESBUS ARCHIVE



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Barry's latest

Late last year a wartime survivor arrived at the Cardiff Transport Preservation Group's Barry depot. TUDOR THOMAS reports.

That bus was Pontypridd 40 (FNY 993), a 1944 Bristol K6A with Park Royal utility highbridge bodywork. Withdrawn in 1966, the bus was recently in the ownership of David Boughton of Ipswich, who had hoped to complete its restoration, but due to a change in circumstances relating to his business, he offered it to CTPG, which keenly accepted it! It was, therefore, recently towed the 251 miles from Suffolk to its new home in Barry somewhat closer to Pontypridd than it has been for 38 years.

The bus is one of only 150 utility Bristols to leave the Brislington factory. By comparison Guy Motors produced some 2,000 utility Arabs, whilst Daimler supplied 700 CW-series double-deckers during World War 2.

Transport for miners was critical to the war effort, and whilst buses bought before the war continued with 'patch and mend', maintenance alone could not keep up with demand. So, several requests for more buses was put to the Ministry at Whitehall. As a result, Pontypridd secured a total of 23 new double-deckers during the period 1942-45. There was a high demand in particular for new buses in 1943/44 as many



Pontypridd 40 (FNY 993), a Park Royal-bodied Bristol K6A newly arrived at Barry following its 251-mile journey from Suffolk outside 'The Bus Depot'. The restoration work already carried out to return the utility body to original spec is shown to good effect. MIKE TAYLOR

cities across the UK had suffered Luftwaffe attacks, notably Swansea, Plymouth, Coventry, London, but many other areas too, all having an impact on the size of bus fleets.

Pontypridd had a very strong case as miners' transport was

essential to mine coal to power the Royal Navy's fleet of ships, and to help industry to supply the materials needed to make munitions, as well as to supply the railways to transport supplies to the channel coastal ports. It is thought that in 1943 the council requested seven Bristol vehicles, as it was already familiar with Bristol's products, having already taken delivery

26 examples including two utility K5Gs and one of only two Bristol trolleybuses ever made.

In the event five of the allocated buses were



No 40 is seen at Winkleigh in Devon in 1971. MIKE STREET



Guy Arab IIs with only two, including No 40, being Bristols. A complete listing of Pontypridd's utility double-deckers can be found elsewhere on these pages.

No 40 gave good service, the wooden wartime seating being replaced at some point with metal tubular-style moquette-covered seats. By the mid-1950s it was thought that the wartime wooden bodies had suffered warping causing the windows to rattle excessively, so rubber mounted windows formed a rebuilding programme to all the Guy and Bristol utility buses acquired in 1944/45. In 1956 No 40's body was duly rebuilt by Pontypridd Urban District Council employees, the work included the fitting of new rubber-mounted windows and a noticeably smaller upper-deck front window outline with rounded corners. These modifications gave the bus another decade in service.

Some buses had only the worst windows attended to, so looked slightly odd compared to those which were completely treated. It cannot be said that the outward appearance looked better, but the noise reduction was probably appreciated by passengers. All but one of the Guy Arab IIs were scrapped immediately following withdrawal in the mid-1960s

as did the other 1944 Bristol K6A.

No 40 along with the remaining Guy, No 37 (FNY 633), was sold in July 1967 to the West of England Transport Collection for preservation at Winkleigh, Devon. (Does anyone know of what happened to the Guy Arab II? Contact CTPG if you do!).

No 40 was kept under cover for some years and then brought out for several of the Winkleigh Open Days that attracted enthusiasts across a wide area. During 1983, No 40 returned to Pontypridd to be refurbished and painted by Taff-Ely District Council, successors to the Urban District Council following administrative boundary changes and names in 1974.

No 40 was subsequently entered in an event organised by the Historic Commercial Vehicle Club to commemorate '100 years of Passenger Transport' held in Cardiff city centre on 26 June 1983 — the last time the bus was seen in Wales.

No 40 returned to Devon, where it remained until 1992, when it featured in an auction held at Winkleigh. David Boughton of Ipswich bought the bus and bravely drove it to Suffolk without incident.

David runs a small business, Venturer Coachways of Clopton, No 40 being kept with his fleet of coaches used primarily

on schools and contract work. Over the years, he spent a lot of time re-converting the bodywork back to original utility style, including the unmistakable square corned oblong front windows. In addition he had a full set of new wooden seats made to the original 1940s Park Royal pattern.

David had hoped to complete the work, but as his business had to relocate premises. It made sense not to move the bus again in Suffolk, so he contacted CPTG chairman Mike Taylor in 2016 forging an arrangement to donate the bus in return for its full renovation.

Said Mike: 'Former Pontypridd UDC buses are part of Welsh transport history and few now exist, so we were keen to look after it. David donated it on condition that we will continue the restoration. Anyone who has visited our restoration centre at The Bus Depot, Barry at the May and June Open Days will see we have a strong dedicated team of volunteers who have great pride in doing a good job. We are always looking for more volunteers who can spend, perhaps, a day a week helping out at Barry.

'The bus has a solid frame so on-going work will mainly be a re-assembly task, as we have most of the parts. It may take some time, but it will get done.'



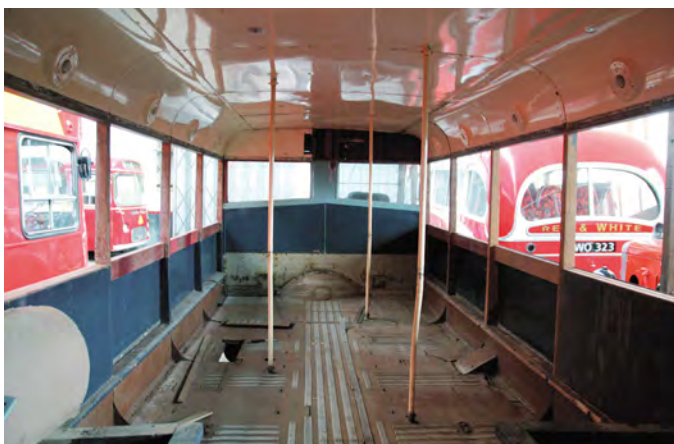
Above, left to right: **No 40 safely inside 'The Bus Depot'. Its full restoration to World War 2 condition is now underway.** ALL: CLIVE WILLIAMS

Right and below: **The upper- and lower-saloon, minus glass and most seats! Upstairs can be seen some of the new wooded seats based on the original 1944 Park Royal pattern.** ALL: TUDOR THOMAS



PONTYPRIDD UTILITY DOUBLE-DECKERS

17/18 (ETX 763/4)	1942	Bristol K5G	Bristol H56R
19 (FNY 49)	1942	Guy Arab	Northern Counties L55R
20 (FNY 200)	1943	Guy Arab	Northern Counties L55R
25 (FNY 299)	1943	Daimler CWG5	Duple H56R
26/7/31-3 (FNY 401/22/537, 536/72)	1943	Guy Arab II	Park Royal H56R
34-8 (FNY 578/661-4)	1944	Guy Arab II	Park Royal H56R
39/40 (FNY 932/3)	1944	Bristol K6A	Park Royal H56R
41/42 (FTG 1/2)	1945	Bristol K6A	Park Royal H56R
43-6 (FTG 16/7/30/1)	1945	Guy Arab II	Northern Counties H56R



Down in the valley

We pay a return visit to the Welsh mining town of Pontypridd, which apart from producing coal, is the home of singer Tom Jones.

Previously an operator of trams, Pontypridd UDC obtained powers in 1929 to operate both motorbuses and trolleybuses, and, on 18 September 1930, the route from Treforest to Cilfynydd was

converted to trolleybus operation using seven single-deck 32-seat English Electric trolleybuses. On 30 August 1931, the remaining line to Trehafod was closed and motorbuses took over, the through service to Porth being operated jointly with Rhondda.

The first motorbus service had commenced in June the previous year when a service between Pontypridd and Rhydfelin had been inaugurated using four

Bristol B-type single-deckers. The Bristol chassis subsequently became a regular choice for Pontypridd UDC.

Under local government re-organisation in 1974, Pontypridd UDC became Taff-Ely District Council. The Transport Department was little changed but assumed the name of the new District Council. Here though we take a look at the pre-1974 motorbus fleet, which became renowned for its longevity . . .



Opposite page:

Top: **Seen here outside the Llanover Arms in Pontypridd's Bridge Street just off the A470 is No 33 (FNY 572), a 1943 Guy Arab II with rebuilt Park Royal utility bodywork. No 33 lasted in service until 1962, but the pub is still going strong!**

Pictures: PRESBUS ARCHIVE

Bottom left: **Possibly the best known Pontypridd bus ever is No 51 (GNY 915), one of a pair of Beadle-bodied Bristol L5G new in 1947. Sister bus No 50 (GNY 914) was withdrawn in 1959, leaving No 51 to soldier on alone until 1973 in the main due to its role as a towbus. Entering preservation, No 51 has now sadly joined the ranks of gems lost abroad. It is now in Belgium with London Ceremony Bus in South Wales livery.**

Bottom right: **Pontypridd continued to order Bristols, until the nationalisation of the chassis maker prevented further sales outside of the state sector. Seen here is Beadle-bodied Bristol K5G 53 (HTX 608), new in 1949 and withdrawn in 1968.**

This page, top to bottom:

Pontypridd 77 (VNY 655) a Roe-bodied Guy Arab LUF new in 1957. Withdrawal would come in 1974, a creditable 17-year service life.

Long service was a feature of the Pontypridd fleet. Seen outside the now demolished White Palace Cinema in Station Square is No 81 (502 ATX), one of three Roe-bodied Guy Arab IVs new in 1959 and lasting in service until 1976.

With the lack of universal success for the Guy Arab UF/LUF, operators such as Pontypridd turned to the much more successful AEC Reliance. No 89 (997 TTX) was new in 1963 and was one of a total of six in the fleet fitted with Longwell Green bodywork. No 89 was to remain in service until 1979.





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A LITTLE NIPPER'S Dream

As a 15-year-old schoolboy Iain Bostock-Frith bought a rare Dennis Domino for preservation in 1998. SIMON GILL has been to meet him and brings us news of its fine restoration.

Did you have a favourite bus as a child? Did you ever dream of owning a bus when still at school? Iain Bostock-Frith did both and achieved worldwide fame in 1998 when news that he had bought former South Yorkshire PTE Dennis Domino No53 (C53 HDT) was picked up by the local press, 'Calendar News' on ITV Yorkshire, Sky News and even a Japanese radio station! A change of ownership occurred when Iain left school and became more interested in parties and the usual teenage pastimes, but in March 2013 he bought it back and restoration has now been completed.

Above: **Nearside of South Yorkshire PTE 'Little Nipper' 53 (C53 HDT), an Optare-bodied Dennis Domino showing the clean attractive lines of the bodybuilder's first body design.** SIMON GILL

Right: **South Yorkshire PTE 49 (C49 HDT) a Dennis Domino/Optare heads through a housing estate following a fall of snow on 22 February 1986.** MIKE GREENWOOD

DOMINO

South Yorkshire PTE had adopted the Dennis Dominator as its standard bus but had a need to purchase smaller buses to replace Seddon Pennine IVs; a need replicated by Greater Manchester PTE. They both worked with Dennis to develop a midibus and a part finished Dennis Domino, without an engine or gearbox, was exhibited at the 1984 Motor Show.

This was destined for Greater Manchester but it was the eastern side of the Pennines that would see the model first when South Yorkshire placed the initial one in service in 1985.

The chassis was no lightweight and probably ahead of its time with several Dominator features making it rugged and over-engineered for the work it was required to do. Fitted with a Perkins



Bus & Coach PRESERVATION

Crossing Commercial Street from Haymarket SYPT No 53 (C53 HDT) makes its first return to Sheffield city centre since 1993, recreating its time on 'Little Nipper' service M10 to Norton. This time Iain is driving and not a young passenger... SIMON GILL





M10 Norton

53

GR 53

Little Nipper

SYT C53 HDT SYT

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LOCAL NEWS

We test drive the SEAT CORDOBA VARIO

Ian buys a bus just because he loves it

Enthusiast shells out £1,500 for favourite

By TONY BELSHAW

YOU'VE heard of the businessman who liked a razor so much he bought the company.

Now a Sheffield teenager has decided he was so taken by his local bus that he has bought it too.

Bus fanatic Ian Firth saved up for four years to buy the bus that used to run on the M10 route behind his house in Heeley - and he can't even drive.

Ian, of Cambridge Road, shelled out £1,500 for the 1986 Volvo Ailsa.

The bus ran in Sheffield from 1988 to 1993 as part of Mainline's 'Nipper' service - but while other passengers may have forgotten it Ian decided he would bring it back to the city.

Enthusiast

"I am a very keen bus enthusiast" he said. "I grew up with this bus. My nan always used to take me on it when I was younger and when it was taken out of service I kept tabs on where it had gone."

"When I had saved up enough I travelled to Tunbridge in Kent and found it in a dealer's yard."

Ian, who wants to be a bus bodyfitter when he grows up, has parked the bus at the Sheffield Transport Museum in Tinsley.

He added: "It needs a lot of work to do it up but eventually I want to rally it and win awards."

But before he does that he has GCSE's to finish this summer at Norton's Newfield School.

His parents don't share Ian's insatiable interest in all things buses: "My dad has shown some interest but my mum isn't that into it - though she has washed the windows."

Now Ian is on a nationwide search for parts to restore his pride and joy to pristine condition.



Ian Firth with his pride and joy, a 1986 Volvo Ailsa bus, formerly a Mainline Nipper, inset

T6 354.4 turbocharged 5.8 litre engine, a Maxwell four-speed fully automatic gearbox with built-in mechanical retarder, power-assisted steering, a modified Kirkstall semi-drop rear axle and air suspension with two air bellows at the front and four at the rear. It was small with a length 7.65m, width 2.50m and wheelbase 3.60m.

Heavy and expensive to run; only 34 were built; 20 for Greater Manchester fitted with Northern Counties 24-seat/14-standing bodies and 14 for South Yorkshire. The Greater Manchester examples saw little use after 1990, being stored until 1998 when the first, 1751 (C751 YBA), was acquired by the SELNEC Preservation Society in September 1998 and has since been restored.

OPTARE'S FIRST

Optare began in February 1985 at the old Charles H. Roe factory in Cross Gates, Leeds where a group of former Roe employees invested their redundancy money in a new enterprise backed by the

West Yorkshire Enterprise Board. The first bodies they designed and built were the 14 Dennis Dominoes for SYPTE. These were given fleet numbers 41 to 54 and were originally allocated registrations B41-54 FET but only 45 (B45 FET) entered service in time, so the others were registered C41-44/6-54 HDT. All were fitted with Optare 33-seat bodies of a neat, angular style with standardised glass like SYPTE's Dennis Dominators and included tachographs.

A mere 15 weeks after the factory reopened the first completed vehicle appeared on 13 May. No 42 was the first to be delivered to SYPTE's Central Works on 31 May 1985, but was returned to Dennis at Guildford on 4 June for tests to be carried out. Nos 44/5 featured in an official launch at Optare on 6 June 1985 when well-known local Leeds East MP and former Chancellor, Denis Healey (later Lord Healey) drove No 45 during the event. The bus was delivered on 10 June 1985 and on 12 June starred in an official handover ceremony with Councillor Alex Waugh, Chairman of the

Transport Committee at County Hall, Barnsley. It entered service on 19 July 1985 at Greenland garage in Sheffield.

There was a delay in further deliveries due to the vehicles requiring modifications to meet Ministry of Transport requirements and gain 'type approval'. They were initially spread across the SYPTE network with the first five allocated to Sheffield, 41-3 at Herries, 44/5 Greenland, with 46-9 at Rotherham and 50-4 at Doncaster.

THE DOMINO EFFECT

They were painted in South Yorkshire Transport's 'Nipper' livery of cameo with red skirt panels & lettering. The 'Nipper' services had been introduced on 27 February 1983, initially using ex-London Country ECW bodied Bristol LHs new in 1977. The services ran mainly in the daytime to areas unsuitable for full size buses before minibuses gained popularity. The Dominoes helped to extend the 'Nipper' network into the Hillsborough area of Sheffield, and in Rotherham and Doncaster.

Their red destination blinds with white lettering attracted the attention of a Ministry of Transport certifying officer at Rotherham who pointed out these were quite legal in daylight but when illuminated at night the red light emitted was not legal on the front of a vehicle. This was rectified by fitting blue bulbs resulting in a purple hue at night.

In late-1986/early-1997 three of the Dominoes were loaned to Merseybus where they ran in St. Helens. Six were then loaned to Yorkshire Rider from June 1987 with three used in Leeds and two in Bradford on the 700 Shop Hopper service. Individual buses changed from time to time with all returned to South Yorkshire in November 1987.

With the introduction of Dodge S56/Reeve Burgess minibuses the 'Nipper' was replaced by 'Little Nipper' fleet names with the strap line 'The fast and friendly way to nip out'. This fleet name and a revised livery of red skirt, white panels and yellow window surrounds and roof was applied to all the Dominoes between October 1997 and September 1989.

No 47 was loaned to Compass Bus, Wakefield in September 1988 and in February 1989 it was the first of the batch to have its Maxwell automatic gearbox converted to semi automatic by Avon

Maxwell Transmission in Wakefield. At the same time 47 received Compass blue over its red Nipper livery.

Reliability was becoming an issue due to problems with the gearboxes and compressors so, by September 1989, the remaining Dominoes were all converted to semi automatic and the windscreen wipers changed from air to electric to relieve pressure on the compressor which is why the wipers are off set. Around the same time Greenland garage down-seated the Dominoes to 25 with a standing area for 22 created on the offside of the bus, with hanging straps to hold onto. No 47 returned from Compass in October 1989 regaining a red skirt and also down-seated.

DEMISE OF THE DOMINO

To try and improve reliability all the Dominoes were transferred to Leadmill garage in September 1990, but this didn't last long and in March 1991 the entire batch was withdrawn due to poor fuel consumption (reportedly only three mpg!)

and availability of spare parts; being replaced by Dodge minibuses. Nos 49 and 53 were placed in store at Tinsley with the others moving to the former T. Severn & Sons' garage at Duncroft near Doncaster to await buyers.

Eight were sold to Stevensons of Uttoxeter; 41-4/51/4 in April 1991 as its Nos 222-7 with 46/7 following in July 1991 becoming 228/9. Seating capacity was increased to 33 plus nine standing. Some were operated in the Cannock and Rugeley areas with others allocated to the Pacer fleet in Manchester. The first six only lasted 18 months; the remaining pair managing to keep going until October 1993. All were sold for further service.

Of the remaining six, 52 passed to North (dealer) Sherburn-in-Elmet in June 1991 moving on to Mott, Aylesbury in July 1991 but, strangely, 45/8-50 remained on the fleet strength in storage until June 1997 when they were sold to PVS, Carlton and were all broken up quickly. Iain tried to buy 45 but without success. So what happened to 53?

13: LUCKY FOR SOME

Compared to the others 53 (C53 HDT) has been lucky. Delivered on 5 August 1985, it entered service on 4 September 1985 at Doncaster where it was displayed at an Open Day at Leicester Avenue garage on 8 September. It was one of the three buses loaned to Merseybus as its No 155 in late 1996, returning to Greenland garage in February 1987 to operate new Nipper service N19 (Darnall to Dinnington) prior to the service being taken over by Skills of Nottingham on 26 April.

No 53 was the first Domino to be repainted in Little Nipper livery in October 1987, although during 1988 it was loaned to Compass, Wakefield for a short period. On 7 November 1988 a new Little Nipper service M10 was introduced using the Dominoes running between Wybourn and Norton Lees via Sheffield city centre. Iain's memories start from this era when, as a six-year old lad, he remembers going to town with his dad on the Dominoes. He lived at Heeley Green where the bus dropped them off literally behind their



Opposite: Newspaper article from 14 October 1998 reporting Iain's purchase. SIMON GILL

Above: No 53 jacked up behind the tow truck upon its return to Sheffield.

Right: No 53 in the process of being re-panelled.

Far right: Inside sister bus C42 HDT at Alton Towers.

All three: IAIN BOSTOCK-FRITH





Clockwise from top left:
Iain's favourite view when he travelled on 53 as a lad with his father. SIMON GILL

Modern controls with semi-automatic gearstick to the top right of the steering wheel and Wayfarer ticket machine. SIMON GILL

Interior of No 53 looking towards the rear. SIMON GILL

Transverse Perkins engine and Maxwell gearbox provide a lot of power for a little bus. SIMON GILL

Below: Original tax disc and PSV Operator's disc from 1991. SIMON GILL

house. The sound of the whining engine and the sheer uniqueness of these buses led to his love for the Domino and he spent many days looking out the window and listening to one come bouncing along and whining; the buses being nicknamed 'bouncing bombs' by drivers.

Although placed in store at Tinsley on 15 March 1991, amazingly, 53 was moved to Herries garage in July 1991 where it was spruced up before being put back in service for a contract at Greenland garage the following month. It then became a regular performer on services 56 (Wybourn) and M67 (Stocksbridge–City–Tinsley) before being withdrawn and sold to Mercury Passenger Services, Gravesend as its No 1053 in November 1993.

Iain meanwhile, at the age of 15, gained work experience at Greenland garage where he learnt 53 had come up for sale. Mercury had sold out to Maidstone & District in September 1996, and although No 53 was included in the sale, it was already out of use, passing to Wealden PSV (dealer) in July 1997. Iain went down to Kent with a friend and saw it laid up, albeit in a bit of a sorry state as a lot of parts were missing. Undeterred he bought it and had it towed back to Sheffield where it arrived at the former Sheffield Bus Museum

in Tinsley, ironically where 53 had Iain withdrawn back in 1991, on 7 May 1998. Unfortunately after leaving school and discovering other pastimes, not to mention being too inexperienced and young to fix it, Iain sold 53 to Trevor Heaton.

Sadly in 2011 Iain's father died which made him think: 'why did I sell it?' So after nearly 15 years he contacted Trevor and discovered 53 survived, in dry storage, and due to Iain's strong connection with the bus, he was willing to sell it back to him. Iain went to see 53; it was untouched and after all those years it was exactly how he left it, the school books he hid on it, his old clothes he worked on it in, were all there like the bus was saying: 'Where have you been?' A deal was done and Iain reacquired it in March 2013.

RESTORATION

No 53 had a lot of issues. The engine was in bits, loads of unique parts had been removed, electrics disconnected and lights missing but Iain was determined to finish what he had started. The hunt was on, but by now Iain had gained a lot of mechanical experience so the engine wasn't too difficult to rectify. Perkins was still around, but this proved costly, as 53's fuel pump drive had snapped and with a bodged compressor coupling fitted, the whole lot was broken. Wipers, the rear electric isolator, wiper and heater motors were all missing, the dash was half gone, all interior lights gone,

the door mechanisms and pipes ripped out and all the front panels either missing or damaged.

With these buses being so unique it is virtually impossible to get spare parts and Iain spent ages trying to source bits and pieces. He then had a stroke of luck from somewhere he never imagined possible — Alton Towers! C42 HDT was sold by Stevensons to Alton Towers in 1994, where it was incorporated into the Nemesis theme park ride. He contacted Alton Towers who said they would help, and indeed they did! He went there and pointed out all the missing items he needed, albeit the bus was missing an engine and gearbox, but the rest was there. These were removed and sent to him to get 53 back on the road.

Following months of hard work by Iain, electricians and mechanics which including having parts specially made and remanufactured to fit, No 53 was finally given a major service and top-end engine rebuild, which then sprang into life for the first time in 20 years. Further work was required on the gearbox, but success was achieved in November 2016 when a clean Class 5 MoT pass was obtained.

MORE DOMINOES

But that's not quite the end of the story. Trevor Heaton had also acquired two of the other Dominoes. This included, numerically, the first one, 41, and also 46, both of which had been sold by Stevensons to Pioneer of Rochdale in





early 1994. When Pioneer sold out to FirstGroup in November 1998 they became First Pioneer 1161/2. Trevor acquired them for preservation in January 1999 and they have been stored ever since.

Sadly, Trevor passed away on 20 November 2016 but Iain was able to tell him about 53's successful MoT pass the day before. It was touching that 53's first trip with passengers was to convey friends and family to his funeral. Both 41 and 46 have been bequeathed to Iain together with numerous spares from 47, which was

cut up at Whiting Bros, Ferrybridge and also 52. Iain's next project is to restore 41 to original 'Nipper' condition including an automatic gearbox.

THANKS

After all the blood, sweat and tears Iain is justifiably very proud of his 'Little Nipper'. He intends to drive the bus to his dad's final resting place and say: 'Dad, after 20 years, here it is! In the meantime he wishes to thank Darren Sentence for his help with the bodywork and painting and

also Gareth Atherton for his mechanical expertise.

I would like to thank Iain for his boundless enthusiasm and all his help with information for this feature together with Mike Greenwood for responding so quickly to me pestering him for photos of the Dominoes when they first entered service. Back issues of the excellent monthly magazine *M&T News* published by the Sheffield Omnibus Enthusiasts Society have also proved invaluable in tracing the history of the Dominoes.



Above: **Rear nearside of 53 (C53 HDT)** showing the clean lines of the Optare bodywork. SIMON GILL

Right: **Proud owner, Iain Bostock-Frith with the bus he always wanted.** SIMON GILL

SYPTE *Remembered*



As ever at B&CP, we go the extra mile by bringing you more STPTE memories!

Top: South Yorkshire PTE bought relatively few Leyland Nationals new. Amongst the first four arrivals was No 4 (YWJ 104M) in 1974. Seen here approaching the bus station in May 1984, No 4 has been converted to conventional heating highlighted by the removal of the pod and the addition of a grille in the front dash, similar to those used by B-series machines. The red bumper indicates the bus has a kneeling facility. It would be a further 10 years or more before true low-floor buses would enter service! No 4 was later sold to Isle of Man National Transport.



Centre: SYPTE continued Sheffield's trend in buying buses which were somewhat individualistic. No 817 (GWA 817N), also seen approaching the bus station in May 1984, is a 1975 Daimler Fleetline with an attractively styled body built by ECW-bodied. Deregulation would see this bus sold to Ribble.





Opposite, bottom: **Seen leaving Rotherham bus station in June 1980 is 1976 Leyland Fleetline No 1441 (LKU 341P) with Roe body based on that fitted by Park Royal and MCW to Fleetlines of the DM and DMS classes.**

This page, top to bottom: **Continuing the theme of non-mainstream buses we see 1976 Van Hool McArdele-bodied Ailsa B55 No 375 (LWB 375P), one of 61 delivered to the PTE. Only two other buses were built in this combination, these being delivered to AI Service (T. Hunter) the following year. No 375 was later sold to London Buses as its V7.**



Meanwhile back at Sheffield's Pond Street bus station in May 1984, No 1833 (JKW 333W) demonstrates the again uncommon combination of Leyland Atlantean chassis and Marshall body. New in 1981 transferred to Mainline upon its formation to take over as an arm's-length successor to the PTE.



And finally . . . approaching the bus station in May 1984 is Alexander-bodied Dennis Dominator No 2417 (A417 YAK), an example of the PTE's preferred double-decker for the 1980s and 1990s. Looking very smart, at the time of this view, No 2417 was a mere two months old.



Tea-break time

Sheffield 216 is a bus that has been hanging around the South Yorkshire Transport Museum for more years than anyone can remember, but with a skilled and enthusiastic restoration team now in place, it will soon be back on the road. DAVID JORDAN reports.



No 216 (JWB 416) is a Leyland Tiger PS1 with Leyland 7.7-litre engine, four-speed crash gearbox and Weymann 34-seat body, one of a pair new to Sheffield's A fleet in January 1947.

Most of No 216's short revenue-earning life was spent on dedicated single-deck services such as route 31 to Lower Walkley and on East End workmen's services.

In 1957 the Tiger was converted into a mobile canteen to provide a tea-break service at the various bus termini in Sheffield city centre which existed at the time. When finally withdrawn in 1967, No 216 became the first Sheffield bus to be preserved.

The main wooden framework was in poor condition at this stage, so this was soon completely restored and renewed. Since then, no further restoration was carried out until late-2015, when the bus was moved to the Museum workshop so that further work could begin. Watch this space for updates...



Opposite page:

Top: **Weymann-bodied Leyland PSI Sheffield 216 (JWB 416) when new.**

Bottom: **No 216 in service as a tea bus.**

This page:

Top left: **The interior of the rear-entrance Weymann body prior to entering service.**

Top right: **Amazingly following some research, the museum has found the young lady in this picture. Now in her eighties, but 19 at the time, her name is Betty Foster.**

Below: **Preservation begins at the SYTM's Aldwarke premises. All motive parts have been removed and the chassis has been shotblasted.**



Above: **Coming soon — another of the South Yorkshire Bus Museum's jewels — Sheffield United Tours 1961 Plaxton Panorama-bodied AEC Reliance No 322 (1322 WA) is now complete and scheduled to appear on these pages shortly! Seen here with the coach are three members of the restoration team. From the left are: Trevor Weckert, Dave Lovatt and Derek Bloor. Pictures: SOUTH YORKSHIRE TRANSPORT MUSEUM**

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NOTTINGHAM CELEBRATION

Last year saw the 50th anniversary of the last trolleybus to operate in Nottingham. JOHN CHILD was there to record the event.



To celebrate this and the 90th anniversary of the formation of the South Notts Bus Co, Nottingham City Transport hosted a Heritage Day in the Old Market Square on Monday 4 July.

Four preserved vehicles attended alongside a vehicle from the current fleet painted in traditional Nottingham livery.

The star attraction was Nottingham 506 (KTV 506), a 1950 BUT 9641T with Brush 70-seat body, which operated the very last journey on Nottingham's trolleybus network between the city centre and Nottingham Road.

Privately owned No 506 is normally to be found at the Trolleybus Museum, Sandtoft and was the first trolleybus on display in the city for nearly 20 years.

The Nottingham system opened in 1927, and was, by UK standards, medium-



sized with eight routes. In its heyday, the number of trolleys in service totalled 157.

The day also saw the unveiling of the last bus to be delivered to the South Notts Bus Co prior to its sale to Nottingham City Transport on 13 March 1991. The bus, No 129 (G129 NRC), a Northern Counties-bodied Leyland new in 1989,

has recently been restored by Nottingham Heritage Vehicles, having spent its later years in service with Paul S. Winson of Loughborough.

Supporting the stars of the show were West Bridgford 21 (ORR 140), a 1954 Willowbrook-bodied AEC Regent III, the sole remaining example of a bus delivered new to WBUDC in running order, and

Nottingham East Lancs-bodied 540 (OTO 540M), amongst the first deliveries to form what was to become a large fleet of Leyland AN68 Atlanteans. No 540 was to have a second career with Confidence of Leicester.

Representing the modern fleet was heritage-liveried No 676 (YN05 WFE), a 2005 East Lancs-bodied Scania N94.

A Journey into HISTORY

The East Kent Nostalgic Bus & Coach Trust was formed in 2012 by Adrian and Jonathan Baxter to provide a secure future for a number of former East Kent vehicles and artefacts. In the first of a two-part feature DAVID JUKES takes a close look.

Twins Adrian and Jonathan Baxter have been actively involved in bus preservation since 2002. Their first acquisition, former East Kent AFN 777B, a 1964 Park Royal-bodied AEC Regent V, being featured in *B&CP*, April 2002. A tidy sum was spent on the start of a mechanical overhaul but, unfortunately, burnt-out electrics and a seized engine resulted in the Regent's recycling for usable parts; some of which have been used on other locally-based Regent Vs. Shortly afterwards, Adrian and Jonathan picked up ex-East Kent sisters GJG 742D, GJG 739D and AFN 780B plus Leyland Atlantean JJG 1P.

But this was just the beginning as Adrian and Jonathan formed the East Kent Nostalgic Bus & Coach Trust in 2012: 'Essentially the Trust was set up to secure East Kent buses and coaches and stop them being lost,' explains Adrian. 'There was nothing in place to guarantee

their preservation, so we stepped in to act and strengthen the bus preservation movement in Kent.

'I think we have achieved that, especially with what we do and the vehicles we have secured,' he adds. 'We formed the trust four years ago but had been thinking about the idea around 2010. It took us around 18 months to put everything in place.'

The Trust currently has 70 members and two trustees, Adrian and Jonathan, who are responsible for the preservation of 15 vehicles. (Details of which are divided between this and the May issue, all but one new to East Kent.) Their first task was making the Trust accountable. Articles had to be written and submitted to Companies House and the Charity Commission, and a governing document prepared: 'We had to put a lot of effort into the governance side,' admits Adrian. 'Everything has to be set in place to allow someone else to take over

and ensure the Trust does not disappear should Jonathan or I be unable to continue through ill health or old age.

'The members are fully behind what we are doing,' adds Jonathan. 'They help out with the buses and some make regular donations in addition to their annual subscriptions or monthly payments.'

The Trust has also secured a Heritage National Lottery grant of £50,000 over three years. Applications will be made after the third year for up to three more grants, one of which will be for a building.

TO BE CONTINUED

Next month we find out how the Trust best plans to use its grant, but this month, part one of a survey looking at the Reliances and Regent Vs...

A view of AEC Regent Vs AFN 775B and GJG 742D from R139 EVX's upper-deck.
Pictures: DAVID JUKES



KFN 239

This 1955 Weymann-bodied AEC Reliance is presently inoperable. It was restored around 20 years ago, but left in a field by its previous owner when mechanical gremlins struck; the bus will have to be rebuilt once again as a result. KFN is substantially intact but suffered engine cannibalisation while stored — a significant mechanical overhaul is required before it can run again. Adrian and Jonathan acquired the Reliance for sentimental reasons in July 2012; their father Joe used to regularly drive the type in East Kent service and the finished bus will be a tribute to him.



Above: The interior of KFN 239's Weymann bodywork is substantially complete although there is plenty of work required before its high-backed seats can carry passengers. The rear roof domes are stored on the back seat while the supporting framework is rebuilt.

Below: The autumn sunshine passes through the storage shed's arched windows and falls upon a KFN 239 presently awaiting the reinstallation of two offside windows and its emergency exit door.



521 FN (DSL 856)



A 1962 AEC Reliance with 1972 Plaxton Panorama Elite II bodywork fitted during East Kent service to replace the Park Royal original acquired from an Essex-based collector in May 2014. It requires a little work; an offside window has been replaced and the exterior paint T-Cut to restore its finish before minor trim repairs can be carried out.



Above: The tidy interior of the Plaxton bodywork is ready to go.

Left: The former 521 FN carries the white with maroon band East Kent coach livery variant applied when newly rebodied by Plaxton in 1972.

6542 FN (LAH 534A)



A 1963 AEC Reliance with 1973 Plaxton Panorama Elite III bodywork fitted during East Kent service to replace the Park Royal original. This coach was acquired in May 2016 just two weeks after its availability was advised by e-mail. It has been converted into a transporter with rear-mounted ramp, in which form it has run for 15 years. The forward interior retains original finishes that will be retained, while at least two sets of seats are available from donor vehicles. National white coach livery is intended once an extensive restoration is carried out.



Left: The Reliance remains in as-acquired condition; it was used as a transporter with rear-mounted ramp for 15 years.

Above: The forward bays retain much of the original interior trim; the retrofitted sink and storage areas will be removed during the vehicle's return to its original spec.

AFN 489B

A rare (and possibly now unique) 1964 Duple Commander-bodied AEC Reliance which is testimony to the success of 'Busmart'. The Trust acquired the coach in February 2016 soon after it was advertised for sale in B&CP. Most of the restoration work to date was carried out by its previous owner although its windscreens will soon be refitted.



Above: AFN's reclining seats were refurbished and reupholstered during its previous ownership; the forward three rows have been temporarily uncovered for photographic purposes.

Below: This Duple Commander-bodied Reliance is currently stored in as-acquired condition; restoration work to date was undertaken by its previous owner.



Please visit the Trust's website to find out more, become a member or make a donation:
www.eastkentnostalgicbusandcoach.com

The Trust has also produced a **2017 Calendar** depicting the East Kent Centenary, priced at £10.00

AFN 775B AND DJG 619C



This 1964 Park Royal-bodied AEC Regent V was subsequently owned by West Kent Buses and was acquired by the Trust for preservation in 2015. Its condition is such that considerable work will be required before a return to operable condition in traditional East Kent livery is possible.

Far left: **AFN 775B's** cabside and bulkhead windows remain as built by Park Royal. Compare this view with the similar picture of newer GJG 742D.

This 1965 Park Royal-bodied AEC Reliance is thought to be the final surviving example of its type in original form as others were rebodied by Plaxton in the early-1970s. It was acquired from another group in June 2012 to prevent its scrapping. DJG is mechanically in running order although it is currently undergoing a front-end rebuild. A set of ex-Ribble seats will be fitted as just 14 of its originals remain. Traditional East Kent coach livery will be reapplied; although the Trust was tempted to paint the coach in Skyways' blue (Adrian and Jonathan advise there is little chance of this happening given the coach's unique status).

Left: **The dash panel has been removed from the Reliance's** Park Royal bodywork to enable rebuilding of the supporting metalwork.

GJD 742

This 1966 Park Royal-bodied AEC Regent V used to be Adrian and Jonathan's regular school bus. It was acquired for continued preservation in July 2007, its previous custodian Tim Newins remaining a part owner. Its upper-deck has been restored while work on the lower-deck is in progress. Reconstruction of the rear offside wheelarch is underway while the lower nearside panels have been removed to provide access to the underlying framework. GJG's front end has been rebuilt and it is hoped this will be the first of the Trust's Regent Vs to be completed. National Bus Company poppy red is the intended livery as the Regent spent more years wearing this than the traditional maroon and cream. It is also East Kent's longest serving double-deck bus, spending 20 years' active service before withdrawal.



Restoration of GJG 742D has progressed such that its lower front panels have recently been refitted; the headlights and sidelights will follow later.

The upper-deck seat cushions and backs have been removed from GJG's upper-deck as a first stage of its restoration.



Oxford Diecast's Commer Commando Coach

 reviewed by NIGEL APPLEFORD



Commercial Cars Ltd was set up in Clapham Road, Lavender Hill, London in 1905 and became a well-respected maker of quality trucks. The firm was taken over by Humber in 1926, so when the Rootes brothers acquired Hillman and Humber the following year, they became the owners of Commer as well. As part of the Rootes group Commer produced vans, lorries, buses and military vehicles, including the famous Superpoise and TS3 trucks, as well as Commando buses. The Commando name would go on to be carried by a Commer/Dodge truck model in the 1970s and 1980s.

Following World War 2, the RAF and the then British Overseas Airways Corporation were in need of vehicles to

transport passengers between airports and city centre terminals. A design specification was drawn up by the Ministry of Supply for a vehicle to accommodate 20 passengers carrying their maximum 60lbs of luggage. This led to the 1½ deck observation coach design with 180 cu ft luggage space. It should also be remembered that the planes at that time were substantially smaller than today (the Vickers Viking initially operated by BEA for example carried only 32 passengers), so a lower capacity vehicle was often quite adequate, some of the airline Commandos were upseated to 30-32 seats. A total of 375 (later modified to 315) vehicles was ordered from Park Royal Coachworks based on the well established Commer Q4 Commando chassis. Power

was provided by a 4-litre Humber petrol engine, needless to say performance wasn't sparkling!

The vehicle measured by Oxford Diecast is resident at the Yorkshire Air Museum at Elvington. The vehicle, XAT 368, has quite an interesting story. It was delivered to the RAF in April 1947 and served at various Yorkshire airfields until 1957, when it was bought by Hull Cricket Club which found it slow, causing the team to frequently arrive late for matches! From 1959 it was used first as a staff bus, then as a commercial coach by two operators until June 1962 when it was purchased by The British Automobile Motor Club and converted for use as a race control vehicle. In this role, it appeared at the Harewood Hill Climb,



Above: **The prototype for the Oxford model is XAT 368, an ex-RAF coach which can be seen at the Yorkshire Air Museum at Elvington, Yorkshire. In this picture it poses alongside the airfield Control Tower.** Picture: YORKSHIRE AIR MUSEUM

Left: **The first release in August 2014 was a model of XAT 368 in the Oxford Military range. A special 'outer' was provided for the Yorkshire Air Museum Allied Air Forces Memorial.** Remaining pictures: NIGEL APPLEFORD

This page, top to bottom: **The first release carries the overall RAF dark grey livery with black wheels and mudguards.**

The second release, in September 2014, was of British Overseas Airways Corporation (BOAC) 366F (HXF 339), the dark blue and white livery being extremely well defined.

The next release, in November 2014, featured British European Airways (BEA) livery, the model being registered TMG 114.

A rear view of the BEA model. The coach-seated interior can be seen, together with the luggage doors and registration plate/lighting over. The overall standard of the finish is superb.

An unusual second use perhaps, but Billy Smart's Circus obviously found the large boot very useful. This model of NYP 635 as an 'Advance Unit' joined the Oxford Showtime range in December 2014.

Castle Howard, Scarborough, RAF Church Fenton and Silverstone until 1972.

In 1978, a new owner, David Hardcastle, planned to restore the vehicle, but eventually donated it to the RAF Benevolent Fund in 1993, in recognition of the help received by his mother from the Fund when her first husband was killed in a flying accident in 1937. The bus was then moved to RAF Cottesmore where restoration finally began.

Thanks to the volunteers there and the most recent owners, the Pantom brothers at the Lincolnshire Aviation Heritage Centre at East Kirkby, the Yorkshire Air Museum's Crew Bus, believed to be one of only five surviving, is now fully serviceable with just some interior work outstanding.

Another remarkable survivor is one of the BEA coaches, ex-1008 (SME 526) of 1947 which is believed still to be extant near Slough Green in Somerset, although it has been modified and has carried a Perkins P6 and now a Bedford 500 engine while a traveller's bus.



FLEETLIST

OXFORD DIECAST 1:76 Scale

Ref:	Identity:	Released:
76COM001	Royal Air Force XAT 368	Aug 2014
76COM002	British Overseas Airways Corporation 366F (HXF 339)	Sep 2014
76COM003	British European Airways TMG 114	Nov 2014
76COM004	Billy Smart's Circus NYP 635	Dec 2014
76COM005	Australian National Airways LS 271	Feb 2015
76COM006	South African Airways TJ 72731	Sep 2016

OXFORD DIECAST 1:148 Scale

Ref:	Identity:	Released:
NCOM001	Royal Air Force XAT 368	Jul 2015
NCOM002	British Overseas Airways Corporation 366F (HXF 339)	Aug 2015
NCOM003	British European Airways TMG 114	May 2016





The Commer 1½-decker was perhaps an unusual prototype for a model, but nevertheless it has proved to be quite popular in both scales. The Oxford model, first released in 4mm scale in August 2014, appears to be very accurate and has captured the shape of the real vehicle extremely well. The larger 4mm model is composed of two halves, the lower half is a die-casting and the upper body plastic, although I haven't dismantled one, it

looks as if the top half is a clear plastic moulding with the paint sprayed through a mask, done very well because there is no evidence of overspray and the standard of paintwork and finish is excellent throughout the range. It has two Phillips screws in the base which presumably release the body. Wheels are extremely well produced (in plastic with rubber tyres) and look very realistic. If one wishes to be pedantic, the radiator is perhaps a little



too shiny and might have benefited from a duller finish and the model has no mirrors but for a recommended retail price of £16.45 then what might you expect?

The smaller 2mm scale model, first released in July 2015 is obviously a scaled down copy of the 4mm issue. This model has a plastic lower deck with a die-cast roof, again with two Phillips screws in the base. The interior is fairly basic but visible. The finish of this very small model, which is only 53mm (a tad over two inches) long, is extremely good even having twin rear wheels. Unfortunately the camera can be a little cruel, but at normal viewing distances they look superb. The smaller model has a recommended retail price of £6.95.

Both are charming models indeed and excellent value for money, shopping around they can be even cheaper. My thanks to the staff at Yorkshire Air Museum for their assistance with this article.

Top left: **Australian National Airways LS 271**, released in February 2015. I haven't been able to ascertain whether this coach was supplied new to Australian National Airways, I think it more likely to have been a secondhand acquisition.

Top right: **The latest of the 4mm range is this model of South African Airways TJ 72731**, strangely supplied in an 'Oxford Showtime' 'outer' (but with the correct label!). The livery is again extremely well executed; the model was released in September 2016. I assume this was another secondhand acquisition.

Upper left: **Many Oxford models have been downsized to 2mm scale including the Commando**. The first 2mm model was of XAT 368 in its RAF livery, released in July 2015.

Centre left: **The liveries also tend to follow on, the second 2mm release (in August 2015) featuring BOAC blue/white**. Again the model is of 366F (HXF 339).

Bottom left: **The latest 2mm model is of BEA's TMG 114**. It was released in May 2016.





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Thoughts on low-floor buses and a Crossley but not as bus enthusiasts know it, are all under discussion by NICK LARKIN this month.

LOW-FLOOR OK?

Time waits for no bus enthusiast and it is now 2017, meaning many a low-floor vehicle is reaching its 20th anniversary.

Not surprisingly then, some of these are entering preservation, and sadly some rather derogatory remarks have been reaching 'Off Route's ears as to why such machinery should be preserved, which to be honest is very sad, especially from some people who should know better.

Maybe this is why North-East preservationist Jonathan Ruddick began an email to me about his latest acquisition, Go North East Volvo B10BLE/Wright

Renown V987 ETN: 'I'm not sure if this is of interest to *Bus & Coach Preservation*.'

Jonathan rode on the Volvo on its first day in service and it was 'our local bus for 15 years.' Full story in news!

I would happily crunch the lock on a barn door with my teeth to rescue a 1940s Crossley and always hated the destruction of so many local identities by large groups.

However, I can still appreciate that the early Wright-bodied 'Barbie Bus' Scania L113 is a fine, stylish machine and was a definite effort to raise standards. Their original livery, which like it or not is something of a legend, is all but defunct

too. Soon all will be gone from service.

We would heavily impress on anyone that many other vehicles are available for purchase (please don't forget older vehicles needing homes), and goodness knows who could cope with those electrics.

However Simon Gill's excellent feature (*B&CP*, March) on First Leicester S350 MFP, now a member of the Leicester Transport Heritage Trust Collection, made a highly important point.

A low-floor vehicle was helpful for enthusiasts in wheelchairs as well as the less physically able and as Simon points out: 'None of us are getting any younger'. I can still happily jump into the cab of a Leyland PD3 quicker than a possessed squirrel, but his comment definitely got me thinking!



WALLY'S CARD

Following various articles covering Wallace Arnold coaches in Devon here is a postcard from late publisher Jarrold & Son Ltd featuring AEC Reliance 5623 UB at New Bridge, Dartmoor.

Notice the driver looking anxiously out of the window as he carefully negotiates his steed over the rather narrow bridge, and the front seat passenger appears to be pointing at something, possibly the photographer.



CROSSLEY BUT NOT AS WE KNOW IT!

Crossleys are surely among the most characterful vehicles ever to have carried passengers, and it was so nice to sample one on a recent visit to Yorkshire.

Sleek bodywork, a proud Maltese Cross on the

radiator, a pre-selector gearbox and sumptuous interior, not forgetting a six-cylinder engine.

A magnificent product of the Stockport factory and one of just 24 survivors from some 650 built. The vehicle wasn't

new to any prolific user of the marque such as Manchester Corporation or Salford City Transport but a Miss Baker of Orpington, Kent, in 1934.

Not a lot of people remember that Crossley also built cars in relatively small numbers, this example

being one of just a couple of survivors with the larger 1,650cc twin-carb engine.

The car is on offer at £18,995. If you'd like to add it to your fleet give the Classic & Sportscar Centre a call on 01944 758000 or visit www.classicandsportscar.ltd.uk



BUILD YOUR OWN

Here's something to keep you busy — the chance to build your own Routemaster.

Sadly it's not full sized, nor does an AEC engine come as part of the package, but there are 66 pieces to assemble. The vehicle featured, RM 652 is still earning its keep on the surviving London heritage route, and interestingly the kit comes with 'seats' in original RM pattern currently being fitted into surviving buses on the 15H.



INSTRUCTIONS INCLUDED
MODEL CONTAINS 66 PIECES



For details visit:
www.dotcomgiftshop.com

MINIS TIME

As in all bus histories there has to be a section devoted to minibuses, and Cadbury Double-Deckers are no exception.

You can now pick up 'Dinky Deckers,' though surely 'Minis' or to put it more precisely 'Minibuses' might be a more suitable description.



HUNGARIAN HAPPINESS

Hungarian passengers were obviously delightfully happy to see their bus arrive judging by this postage stamp.

Buses have featured on a surprisingly large number of stamps from Hungary over the years and most are well documented, though we have yet to find any information on this particular one. Can anyone help?



STEAM IN STOKE

Seemingly Stoke-on-Trent-based PMT led the world in pioneering alternative fuel sources for buses judging by this 'heavy steam machine'.

Sadly, the Weymann-bodied Leyland Atlantean was merely promoting a local disco, which apparently had little to attract the average steam enthusiast and closed down shortly after this

photo was taken c1973.

The vehicle did have one modification which fitted in with its steamy musical theme. It wore a deep purple-based advertising livery!

Perhaps this could be revived on the 1959 Atlantean's sister bus, 776 EVT, now preserved for many years by the Potteries Omnibus Preservation Society.

BUSMART

BUY, SELL AND EXCHANGE YOUR BUS-RELATED ITEMS HERE!
DON'T FORGET PRIVATE ADVERTISERS GO FREE!

INDEX

Buses and coaches for sale	II
Bus and coach parts for sale	III
Bus and coach parts wanted	IV
Restoration services	IV
Storage wanted	VI
Books, magazines and DVDs for sale	VI
Photographs wanted	VI
Vehicle recovery	VI
Models wanted	VII
Miscellaneous artefacts for sale	VII
Events / Museums	VIII
Society	XII
Presbus bookshop	XIII

Other Categories (not listed this month)

Accommodation
Announcements
Assistance/information wanted
Assistance available
Books, magazines and DVDs wanted
Buses and coaches for hire
Buses and coaches wanted
Business for sale
Heritage bus services/tours
Miscellaneous artefacts wanted
Models for sale
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FEATURED BUS FOR SALE



VEHICLE: Brighton & Hove 1960 Bristol FS.

DETAILS: With Gardner engine 6LXB converted to mobile home. Excellent condition £47,000.

CONTACT: For more informations and pictures call Jorg in Switzerland 0041 44 837 12 12 or e-mail info@londag.ch

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BUSES AND COACHES FOR SALE



1962 AEC Renown/Park Royal.

Originally built as prototype/demonstrator, this vehicle saw service in various parts of the UK until latterly used by travellers and then acquired by Friends of King Alfred Buses (FoKAB) in poor condition as a source of spares. It is currently used by FoKAB as a static store on private land, but redevelopment means it cannot stay there much longer. Various components have been removed for use on similar vehicles, so this bus is far from complete and could only be removed from site by lowloader. Any preservationist wanting it for parts or for what would be a highly challenging restoration is welcome to have the vehicle free of charge, so long as it is removed promptly from site at their own cost. Contact: David Morgan on 01737 823436/07771 828918 or d.morgan52@btinternet.com



Rare 1985 Leyland Tiger TL 11 Duple Caribbean. 53 seats (Preserved). Original moquette. Excellent condition for age. Runs well, garaged and stored — no current MOT. £3,500 (07751 521867 OR Judithpoole79@gmail.com)



1989 DAF MB 230/van Hool Alizee 51 seats centre toilet. Runs well. 6-speed splitter gearbox. All in good order. In service until last year and now garaged and stored, so no current MoT. (pic Billy Brayford) £6000 07751521867 - Judithpoole79@gmail.com



1972 Bristol LH Leyland 400 engine 41 seats Plaxton Elite. Has had work on body but still needs further restoration. Runs and drives OK. Has a Plaxton Paramount Front it has had a class 5 MoT, but not at moment. Needing room is reason for sale - kept in storage in garage £2,500 (pic Billy Brayford) 07751521867 - Judithpoole79@gmail.com



Two Leyland Atlanteans new 1975 and 1985. Both fully driveable plus many new and used spares inc recon heads, pumps, tanks, brakes, shocks, exhausts etc. £3,000 the lot. Call Bruce 07961 815286.



Bristol single-deck bus Mechanically complete. Gardner 5LW £2,500 contact Rush Green Motors on 01438 354174. (Trade).

TRADE ADVERTISERS

Call Sandra: 024 7661 6930

**Bus & Coach
PRESERVATION**

or send an e-mail to:
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1959 AEC Reliance/Plaxton

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In last two years: 6x new tyres, new batteries, new water pump, new clutch master cylinder, rebuilt clutch.

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Comes with large stock of spare glass, OK uniform items and genuine stick of Plaxton Centenary rock.

Agreed insurance value of £10,000 but will haggle on £9,000. Sensible offers considered. Vehicle located Northampton.



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Reproduced 1950s/60s Tiling moquette, limited amount — only a few rolls left. Rare opportunity to get this moquette, £600 per roll 1.5m (4ft 11in) width X 20m (65ft 11in) Length(approx). Sold in full rolls only, Located in Shipley West Yorkshire, Contact Keith Renshaw - renshaw221@gmail.com 01274 592702

Ford R1114 engine/gearbox/dif/half shaft, Volvo B58 engine/gearbox/propshaft, MCW Metroliner single-deck engine/dif/half- shafts Leyland Tiger Cummins L10 engine. 1982 Plaxton Supreme VI stainless steel headlight surrounds, almost complete set of glass, front panel (slight damage) and front bumper/grille. Call Andy: 01727 864988.

Bedford J2/Plaxton Embassy 8ft-wide complete front end below windscreen. Grille, right/left corners, sides good condition £450 call C Rischer 07961 431089

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1938 Bristol L5G Single Decker
(North Western)



A solid reliable vehicle in fantastic running order, currently used by a small wedding bus company covering only a couple thousand miles each year.



£39,990 (INC VAT) ONO

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www.saddleworthvintagebustours.co.uk

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Cash for job lot

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Urgent in or around Leicestershire inside or out for recently acquired dennis Falcon. — we are not fussy! Please contact Josh on 07518945346.

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Bus & Coach Preservation and Buses magazines free but must collect. Call Bryan 07747 055188

Buses Annual 1966. Ed. R.A. Smith hardback, 88 unmarked pages, vgc, only £3.50. 07399 359072.

'Provincial in Grimsby' Sixty-two pages of text with black and white photos, this new A5 book is the result of many years of research by the main author, Stewart Brett. The majority of the photos have never been published before. Although specifically about the tramway operations in Grimsby, there is reference to Gosport when vehicles were transferred. This comprehensive fleet history is available from the shop on our website: www.provincialsociety.org



Buses magazine: November 1988, September 1989, Volume 42 1990 (except for January and December) and the whole of Volume 43 — £1 each or £20 the lot. Contact B.E. Lunt at 07813 615177 Mondays from 12:30, Tuesday mornings and early afternoons (or evenings if preferable) Wednesdays all day and anytime Friday. I can also be contacted at BarLnt@aol.com. Sensible questions only please.

PHOTOGRAPHS WANTED

Quality slide Or photographic collections purchased for cash: best prices paid. Call Sandra 024 7661 6930 or email presbuses2@btinternet.com

Photos of Ex Bournemouth Corporation with other owners, scrapped or NPSV caravans. Write to Arthur Day, 29 Clarence Park Road, Bournemouth, Dorset BH7 6LF

If you are looking to dispose of bus slide/negative collection(s) for cash please contact Steve on 07775 436263

you'd be surprised who reads it

If you like old buses, you'll love this gorgeous magazine, full of fascinating articles and nostalgic pictures that give you an insight into the story of how we got to where we are today.

If it's good enough for James Freeman, we reckon you'll enjoy it, too.

Classic Bus



from specialist bookshops, many WHSmith branches or by post from

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18 Brunstane Road
Edinburgh EH15 2QJ



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*April issue available 16 March

£4.60

MODELS WANTED

Graham models



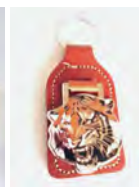
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mobile: 07487 699905

MISCELLANEOUS ARTEFACTS FOR SALE

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Leyland Tiger penknife. This was presented by Leyland to only a very few people who either worked on or bought Tiger chassis. I have never seen another one for sale. £30 including postage; **Unused Renault bus chassis key ring**, heavy type in really nice unused condition. £15 including postage. Also bus badges for sale, ring and ask; **Genuine Leyland Tiger key ring**, enamel on leather, made for Leyland by one of the best makers. this is an extremely rare new unused 1950/60 Leyland item and is in MINT condition. £50 including postage; **Genuine Leyland bus key ring** in good, hardly used condition. These are getting rare now that Leyland and the company who made these for Leyland have both stopped trading some years ago. £28 including postage. Call Alan 01872 575140.

MTL North destination blind from Green Lane garage: £10. Contact B.E. Lunt at 07813 615177 Mondays from 12:30, Tuesday mornings and early afternoons (or evenings if preferable) Wednesdays all day and anytime Friday. I can also be contacted at BarLnt@aol.com.

Many vehicle and operator badges, too many to list here and more than on picture. For a complete list please contact Jim Sambrooks, 55, Silverwood House, Doncaster, Yorkshire. DN1 3RN, jimsambrooks@hotmail.com or phone 01302 320753 and leave a message.

LEYLAND ROYAL TIGER DOYEN BADGE

Brand new chrome badge intended for the vehicle front in an original Leyland wooden box is available for sale. Similar to that illustrated. Ideal for the preservationist or for display in an office or study. Immaculate condition and a rare chance to own. Offers around £750. Phone Bill on 01952 255669.



FOR TRADE ADVERTISING

Call Sandra: 024 7661 6930



or send an e-mail to: presbuses2@btinternet.com

DEWSBURY BUS MUSEUM



SPRING OPEN DAY

Sunday 12th March 2017

10.30 am - 4.30 pm

* Free shuttle service from Dewsbury Town Centre *

* Mystery Tours * Trade stalls * Tombola *

* Mad Mile Thrash * Bus Museum Café *

Admission only £3.00 - includes souvenir programme containing bus timetables and vehicle allocation.

You can order your programme in advance by post

Full details will be posted on our website:

www.dewsburybusmuseum.co.uk

Other events in 2017 include our
SUMMER SPECTACULAR on SUNDAY 13th AUGUST
and our
AUTUMN OPEN DAY on SUNDAY 19th NOVEMBER.

Tel/fax: 0844 504 0089

Postal address: 47E Dale Street, Ossett, WF5 9HE

Registered Charity No. 702232

South East Bus Festival

2017 South East Bus Festival Part of the
HERITAGE TRANSPORT SHOW

Saturday 1st April

10am to 4pm at Kent Showground
on the A249 at Detling, near Maidstone

- Admission £10 per person or £7 in advance •
- Children under 14 years admitted free •

Ticket allows entry to the Heritage Transport Show, South East Bus Festival and as many free bus rides as you can manage!

- Over 100 buses and coaches expected, old and new, plus around 600 cars, commercial vehicles, tractors and motorbikes
- Free rides around the showground every five minutes in around forty buses and coaches
- Reunion Tea Room ■ Guest speakers
- Sales-stands and displays ■ Slide shows.



For full details visit

www.arrivabus.co.uk/south-east-bus-festival
www.facebook.com/southeastbusfestival

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SATURDAY 18th MARCH

10.00AM - 3.30PM

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ADMISSION £2.00 ACCOMPANIED U16 FREE

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25th March to
29th October

Saturdays,
Sundays &
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during school
holidays

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runs at 1.00 and 2.30
on Saturdays &
Wednesdays
during school holidays
see website timetable

EVENT DAYS 2017

EASTER SUNDAY & MONDAY
16th & 17th APRIL

MAY DAY BANK HOLIDAY
SUNDAY & MONDAY
30th APRIL & 1st MAY

SPRING BANK HOLIDAY
SUNDAY & MONDAY 28th & 29th MAY

FATHERS' DAY SUNDAY 18th JUNE

AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY
SUNDAY & MONDAY 27th & 28th AUGUST

AUTUMN RUNNING DAY OCTOBER 8th
BIRMINGHAM BUSES BIRTHDAY

SATURDAY OCTOBER 28th
TWILIGHT RUNNING DAY
OPEN 12noon—7PM



LONDON BUS MUSEUM

A LIVING HERITAGE

Located at
BROOKLANDS
MUSEUM
WEYBRIDGE

Spring Gathering 2017

April 9th
9am to 5pm



Featuring

"Pay
As You
Board"

Spring Gathering welcomes all buses and coaches, and especially this year vehicles where you pay on entry. Experiments began long before one person operation, and there will be an exhibition showing the history.

For the enthusiast, There are excursion tours, displays, flea market and workshop tours.

Bring the family. They can enjoy free bus rides, see Punch & Judy, and Professor Crump.

Come by car and use the free Park & Ride, By train, bus route 462 runs to & from Weybridge Station.

Adult £13.00, Child £7.00, Senior/Students £11.00, Family £34.00, LBM/BMT members £2

25th June 2017

London Buses Summer

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22nd October 2017

Transportfest

Featuring "Service Vehicles and Commercial Vans"

Normal Brooklands Museum entry prices apply to all events except Spring Gathering. (subject to change during 2017)
Adult £11.00, Child £6.00, Senior/Students £10.00, Family £30.00, LBM/BMT members free. Join on the day & get free entry.

London Bus Preservation Trust Ltd, Brooklands Road, Weybridge, Surrey. KT13 0QS

Registered Charity No. 1053383

londonbusmuseum.com

Telephone 01932 837994

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10 AM TO 5 PM

TRANSPORT MUSEUM

TRANSPORT FESTIVAL

BRINGING YOU THE VERY BEST IN CLASSIC VEHICLES

Free classic bus and car rides, including double deck bus 'city tour' at 5 pm



photo by kind permission M Dryhurst

Admission £ 7 (includes programme / bus schedule)

Accompanied children free (**please note** – no dogs except assistance dogs allowed on site / on buses)

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Parking at Museum limited to 'blue badge' holders and visiting classic vehicles. (**please contact in advance if bringing a bus / coach / HGV.**)

Stallholder enquiries welcome.

Lincolnshire Road Transport Museum, Whisby Rd,
North Hykeham, LINCOLN LN6 3QT 01522 500566

www.lvvs.org.uk

info@lvvs.org.uk

@LincsRTM on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter



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Mayday Bank Holiday Weekend

29th April – 1st May 2017

Conwy & Great Orme Evening Road Runs

Sunday/Monday Street Parades

Large Sea Front Showground

Welsh Modern Class

and also a Shuttle Bus Service to Town

ADMISSION Car Park £2 | Adults £6.00
Gates Open 9am Children £1 | Concessions £5.50

For further information

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Conwy County, LL28 4YS

e-mail: info@llantransfest.co.uk

www.llantransfest.co.uk



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ANNUAL RALLY

And Bomber County Road Run

At Newark Showground

NG24 2NY



Saturday 27th and Sunday 28th May 2017

Rally Director David Hopkins – rally@aecsociety.com

Rally Entries Howard Berry – membership@aecsociety.com

0750 4974776

All HGV & PSV makes welcome



**DON'T MISS OUR ANNUAL RALLY &
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ON SUNDAY 14th MAY 2017**



Featuring Preserved Buses Running On Routes Around
The Local Area Including Conisbrough Castle.

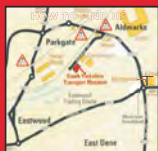
Entry Forms Can Be Downloaded From sytm.co.uk/rally

www.sytm.co.uk

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SOUTH YORKSHIRE

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MUSEUM**



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10.30 am to 4.30 pm, Castle Green – next to Taunton Bus Station

Sales stalls Classic buses on frequent town & country services

Open Day at Buses of Somerset Depot (connecting buses)

(buses from Taunton Rail Stn from 9.30 onwards and return at end of day)

For more information, vehicle owner / stall holder enquiries

www.tauntonrunningday.wordpress.com

e-mail: tauntonrunningday@yahoo.co.uk tel: 01823 442589

UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

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Large display on both sides of the track | Judging of fully restored buses

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www.chesterfield123.org.uk | www.transpirebus.org

14, Whiting Mews, Holland Road, Old Whittington, Chesterfield, S41 9HF

Tilford Bus Rally

including coaches & classic cars

Sunday 28th May 2017

RURAL LIFE CENTRE, TILFORD,
NEAR FARNHAM, SURREY, GU10 2DL

*Come and see the 1928 Dennis Chassis OT 8902
rescued from*

inside a house in Walton on Thames some years ago.

*This chassis has been restored to almost pristine
condition by a bus charity, ADORR Society.*

New this year

VINTAGE MOBILE CINEMA A UNIQUE VINTAGE VEHICLE SHOWING VINTAGE PATHÉ TRANSPORT FILMS

- The rally will also have buses/coaches/classic cars and other vehicles on show for the day.
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- Free rides around the villages on classic buses and coaches.
- Rural Life Centre fully open with café/restaurant.
 - Steam train operating.
- Buses meet trains at Farnham from 0930.
 - Free car park
- Admission charge to the museum complex including the rally

For more information contact the Rural Life Centre on

01252 795571

For bus/coach/classic cars/stalls call Ray on

01252 311414

or email: randmlemfoster@btinternet.com

See Adorrs website www.adorrs.co.uk

North West Vehicle Restoration Trust ANNUAL RUNNING & OPEN DAY

Sunday 4th June 2017 9.30am till 5.00pm

Regular free bus service operated by group and visiting vehicles

Timetable & Event Guide will be available for only £4.00

Trade Stands and Refreshments on offer at our Kirkby base

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Plus, another BIG Launch during the day!



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Registered Charity Number: 1143261

NorthWestVRT

Buckinghamshire Railway Centre Presents ANNUAL HERITAGE BUS RALLY

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Bedford Buses and Coaches

AUTHOR Nigel R B Furness | PUBLISHER Crowood Press |
ISBN 9781 7850 0207 6 | PRICE £35.00

A long-awaited and much-needed definitive work, this superb book was obviously a massive task to put together.

Bedford's own publicity is known to contain inaccuracies in specifications but a massive effort has been made to erase all of these from the book, though the purge was not 100% successful. The author emphasises that he is listing Bedford models rather than providing a full history of Bedford, in which there are big gaps in the manufacturer's export market records.

In his most enjoyable introduction, the author reveals a love of Bedfords spanning more than 50 years, beginning with family holidays at Woolacombe, Devon, when every year he wanted to go for a ride on Blue Coaches of Ilfracombe Duple-bodied SB, ODV 38 which was used on a local service but encountered a parental ban.

His first SB rides were using Wessex examples as school transport, but these were replaced by a former London Transport Leyland 6RT described as 'a dark blue heap of shivering rust and dripping nicotine'. Oh dear . . .

The full Bedford story is engagingly told and well-

illustrated, followed by a journey through each individual model in its various incarnations, sales figures, road test reports and user's memories, not forgetting full specifications.

Each model is set in the context of its time and we also look at various rivals. There are profiles of surviving Bedfords and their owners, as well as a full section on preserving a Bedford, which is also relevant to people interested in other marques.

A superbly illustrated chapter on the many and varied Bedford engines is also extremely useful. The book also takes us through the various Bedford buses based on lorry chassis and van-based examples — they are all here. There's so much in fact that it is difficult to pick just a few of the best gems and thoughts upon them.

How about the magnificent image of an Enterprise & Silver Dawn 1936 Bedford with rare Layne bodywork

surrounded by huge blackboards with chalk-written descriptions of tours on offer? Or the 'Spurmobus' built on K- and later T-series chassis by Spurling, hence the name.

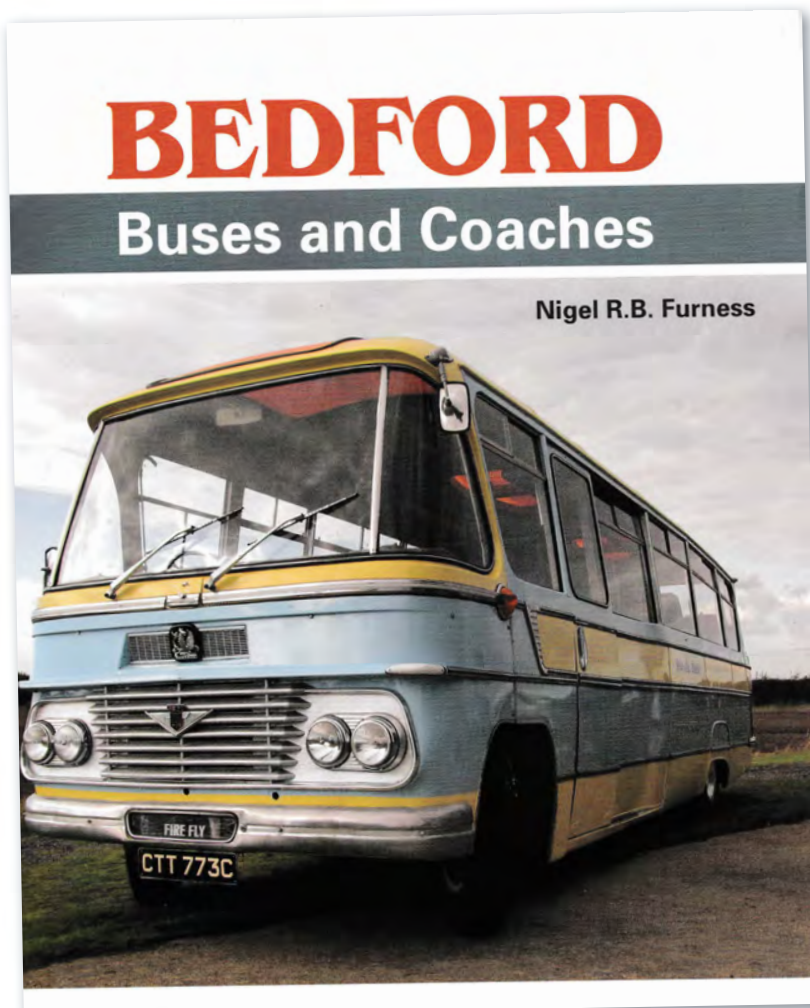
The book makes us realise just how important Bedfords, particularly the lightweights were to small and growing operators and welfare users,

but they also played in some cases a surprisingly major part in some of the country's largest fleets. The JLL midibus was so ahead of its time and could surely have resulted in a Bedford still with us.

All in all, an excellent and highly important book.

NICK LARKIN

★★★★☆



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Cardiff's Municipal Buses

AUTHOR Andrew Wiltshire | PUBLISHER Coastal Shipping |
ISBN 9781 9029 5378 6 | PRICE £25.00

Anyone reading this book will soon realise that Cardiff has always without doubt been one of the most fascinating and uniquely British operators which until now has not had the coverage it deserved.

The author 'grew up' with the fleet from the mid-1960s and has a 'local' knowledge of the buses' surroundings that really benefits the book. We learn about local surroundings and happenings which put the pictures into context during this epic story from horse trams to the present day.

Would you believe that one-man operation began as early as 1923, with two services? A big row developed over six Dennis 30hp buses bought that year which had London-built Dodson bodies rather than locally produced bodywork.

Local independents were swallowed up in the 1920s when Bristol and Albion buses were bought new followed by four Thornycroft LC double-deckers in 1930 and assorted Crossley (including two Mancunians in 1934) AEC (including a Q!) as well as Leyland products.

We learn that always with an eye for a bargain, the operator was never afraid to buy demonstrators or secondhand purchases, even at a mere £50 each. Five 1930 Crossley Condor double-deckers new to Leeds proved unsatisfactory despite being only six-years-old.

Cardiff became famous for its trolleybuses, but it was not until 1939 that a decision was taken to operate them

resulting in the only trolleys ever bodied by Northern Counties arriving during the war.

The operator was plagued by vehicle shortages many times over many years. AEC, Daimler and Guy buses dominate the 1950s fleet, and the last trolleybuses arriving for an extended network in 1955.

Cardiff's first Leyland double-deckers since 1936, 15 Metro-Cammell Orion-bodied PD2A/3s arrived in 1961, though more AEC Regents and Guy Arabs would follow, 37 of the latter entering service as late as 1966.

Daimler Fleetlines brought rear-engined double-deckers to the fleet a couple of years later. The last trolleybus ran on 11 January 1970.

The 1970s saw ECW and Alexander-bodied Bristol VRTs plus some LHs join the fleet, many vehicle shortages, and of course the legendary orange livery being introduced. Ten Tyne & Wear Leyland Atlanteans and four from Plymouth, which had been on hire, were bought in 1977.

That year, single examples of several models were ordered for evaluation. A Leyland Titan never materialised though an excellent picture of an example loaned for demonstration is included in the book, Cardiff also acquiring Dennis Dominator and an MCW Metrobus. An order was placed for no less than 86 Bristol VRTs in 1978, before Cardiff received its legendary

CARDIFF'S MUNICIPAL BUSES

ANDREW WILTSHIRE



Ailsas, various minibuses, Leyland Lynx, Dennis Darts and Mercedes Citaros as the story continues right up to the present day.

There's lots of fascinating information in a second section of the book including a complete fleetlist, and a look at all liveries, not least an extraordinary picture of a Guy Arab in an experimental all-over aquamarine. Now where have we seen that more recently?

There's also a fascinating look at every Cardiff bus ever preserved, some of which have sadly fallen from the tree, though there is some confusion as those owned by the Cardiff Transport Preservation Group are listed separately.

Overall this book is a magnificent effort, the complex story continuing right up to today is told well, if a little matter-of-fact in style.

There are many magnificent photographs, some of them could have been used bigger and not many have more than one vehicle in the shot.

There's also a lack of information as to how Cardiff fared during the war, and not a lot on the takeover of the National Welsh Barry operation. Obviously we are aware of the title of this book and there fact that there is a major new publication on Cardiff's trolleybuses, but the demise of these gets virtually no coverage, not even a 'last day' picture.

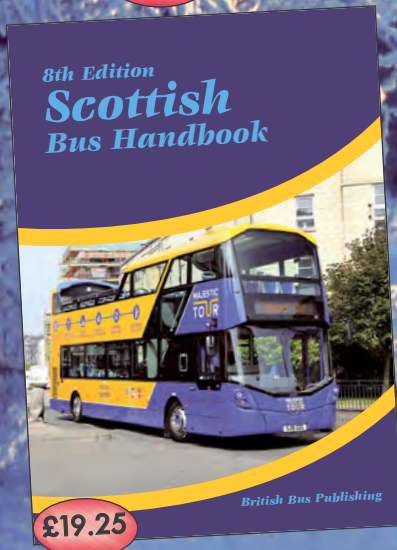
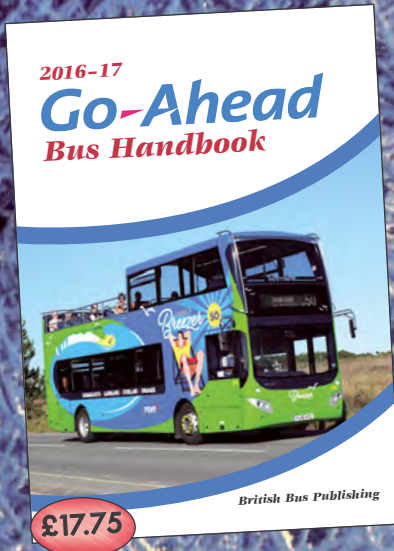
There might also have been a little more about some of the great characters who worked for Cardiff. Bet there were a lot of them!

We still highly recommend this book though, even if you've never seen a Cardiff bus!

NICK LARKIN

★★★★☆

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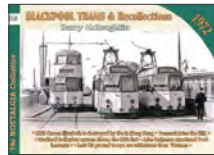
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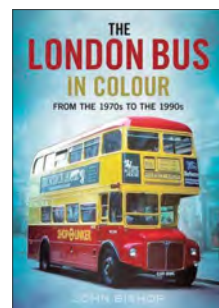
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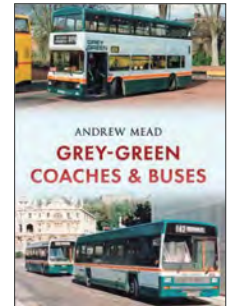


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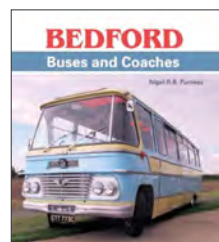
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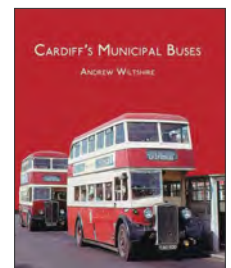


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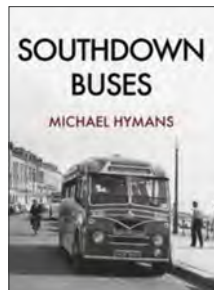
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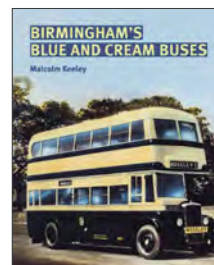
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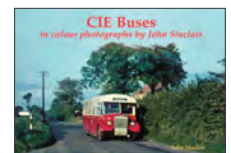
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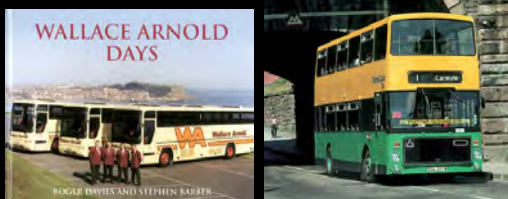
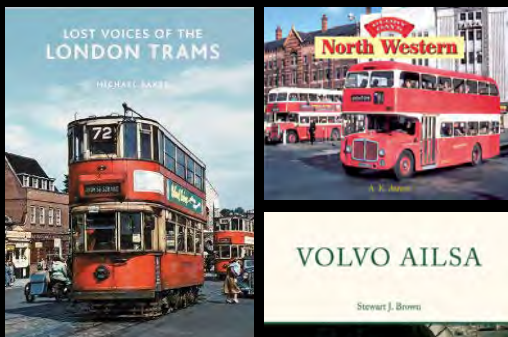
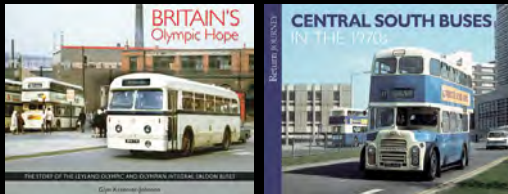
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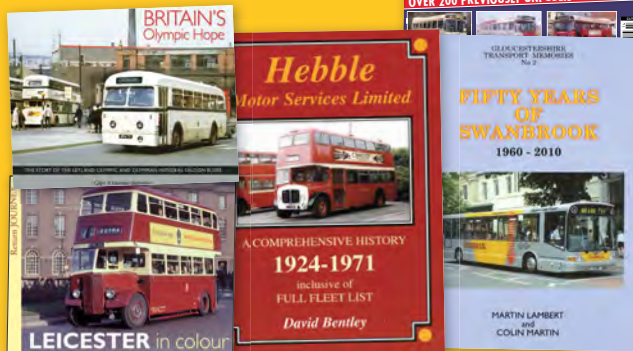
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WELCOME! In this guide, we have again included what we believe to be a comprehensive list of events planned for the coming season. Once again the length of the list is such that there has not been sufficient space to include an updated guide to road transport museums open to the public. We

will therefore again be publishing a separate Museum Guide in our May issue out on Thursday 6 April, so make sure you look out for that.

There is little else to say other than to thank all those of you who once again responded so admirably to our requests for information,

without which we would not have been able to produce this guide. Happy rally going!
PHILIP LAMB

Below: Seen at the excellent Taunton Running day is Bristol LDL6G, Western National 1936 (VDV 753), leaving the rally site. Picture: PHILIP LAMB

Cover images: PHILIP LAMB



Sunday 5 March

Cosham, Portsmouth. Spring Transport Fair. Community Centre, Wootton Street, Cosham, Portsmouth PO6 3AP. Open 10.00–15.30, admission £1.50. Stalls, free bus rides and light refreshments. Display by local area Model Bus Federation members. Close to Cosham railway station and convenient for A3/M27. Enquiries e-mail: vtransportgroup@btinternet.com

St Helens. North West Museum of Road Transport Spring Heritage

Bus Running Day. Museum open 10.00–16.00. free rides on various routes around St Helens on heritage buses from our own collection and visiting vehicles. Stalls selling transport books, photos, models etc in the Museum. Bus link to Rainhill Model Railway Club's exhibition at Rainhill Village Hall. Museum is near to St. Helens Central rail and bus stations Free car parking nearby. Admission: Adult £4.25, Concessions £3.25, Children 5-17 £2.50, Family (2+2) £12.50. Further information: www.nwmort.co.uk or telephone: 01744 451681. North West Museum of Road Transport, The Old Bus Depot, 51 Hall Street, St Helens WA10 1DU.

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Victoria Coach Station 85th Anniversary Coach Festival. Buckingham Palace Road, London. Organised by Transport for London with support from the Thames Valley & Great Western Omnibus Trust. Contacts: Colin Billington, Ledger Farm, Forest Green Road, Fifield, Maidenhead, Berks, SL6 2NR, phone: 07990 505373, e-mail: enquiries@tvagwot.org.uk website: www.tvagwot.org.uk for entry forms and details of programme availability before the event.

Sunday 12 March

South Yorkshire Transport Museum Open Day at South Yorkshire Transport Museum, Unit 9, Waddington Way, Aldwarke, Rotherham S65 3SH. Open 10.30–16.00, shop and café open. Free heritage shuttle bus from Rotherham Bus Station (Stand C1) at 11.45, returning from Museum at 14.00. Admission £4, Concessions £2.50, Family £10 (max. two adults). Further details from: info@sytym.co.uk or Tel: 07852 298082. Website: www.sytym.co.uk

Dewsbury Bus Museum Spring Open & Running Day. Admission by programme, £3 adult, accompanied children free. Advance copy available for £4 by sending a cheque payable to West Riding Omnibus Museum Trust, 47E Dale Street, Ossett WF5 9HE. 10.00–16.30 with a full day of free services and tours. Free shuttle service from Dewsbury South Street to the Ravensthorpe Museum building. More than 20 vehicles running in service and a large selection of visiting buses, trade stalls, Museum Café, Tombola and much more. Visiting vehicles always welcome. Free feeder services operate to the event from Bradford, Castleford, Huddersfield, Keighley, Leeds, Pontefract & Wakefield. For more information visit www.dewsburybusmuseum.co.uk

Saturday 18 March

Epsom & Ewell Transport Fair at Bourne Hall, Spring Street, Ewell, KT17 1UF. Open 10.00–15.30. Admission £2 (accompanied U16 free). Close to Ewell West railway station, buses 293 (Morden), 406 (Kingston and Epsom) stop in High Street nearby. Books, DVDs, models, ephemera, magazines, photographs, tickets etc. Refreshments available. Enquires: Julian Bowden, 21 Forde Avenue, Bromley BR1 3EU (SAE please) or telephone: 07932 812268

National Tramway Museum New Season Open Day. 10.00–17.30. Crich Tramway Village, near Matlock, Derbyshire DE4 5DP. For details: e-mail: enquiry@tramway.co.uk, telephone 01773 854321 or visit: www.tramway.co.uk

Sunday 19 March

NX Historic Society and YWBC Model Fayre. West Midlands Travel Social Club, Wheelers Lane, Birmingham B13 0ST. 10.00 – 15.00. Admission £1, refreshments and free shuttle bus from Kings Heath. Stall entries/enquiries: turland@btinternet.com

Winchester, Hants. RetroBus. This is a unique event specifically for front-entrance buses designed and built during the 1960s, 1970s and 1980s. A range of local town and country services which will call at a number of real ale establishments in and around the Winchester area. The event will be based in the bus station in Winchester, the first service will run at 10.00 and the event is scheduled to be finish up at around 18.00. Feeder services will be established nearer the time and a timetable and working diagram will be created for purchase on the day of the event. For further information and vehicle entries, please contact: hampshirebuses1@yahoo.co.uk

Exeter bus station farewell. Free heritage bus running day and display to mark the final closure of the City's Paris Street Bus & Coach Station.

Friday/ Saturday 24/25 March

London Transport Museum, Depot Discovery Tours at Acton Depot. Museum Depot, Acton Town, 2 Museum Way, 118-120 Gunnersbury Lane W3 9BQ. All tours last for approximately two hours. Tickets must be pre-booked online or via our Ticket Office on 0207 565 7298 (open 10.00-17.30 daily) Adult £12, Concession £10, under 16's must be accompanied by an adult. Tickets must be pre-booked. Details: 020 7565 7298 or visit: www.ltmuseum.co.uk

Saturday 25 March

Oxford Bus Museum Twilight Vintage Bus Running Evening around Oxford. Details: Oxford Bus Museum, Station Yard, Long Hanborough, Oxfordshire OX29 8LA. Tel: 01296 337622 or visit: www.oxfordbusmuseum.org.uk

Saturday/Sunday 25/26 March

Museum of Transport Greater Manchester Spring Transport Festival. Boyle Street, Cheetham, Manchester M8 8UW. 10.00–17.00. A wide range of transport and local interest books, models, DVDs, photographs and much more. Display of vehicles. Free heritage bus to and from Manchester Victoria Station every 20min. 09.50–16.50. Further details from 0161 205 2122 (Wed, Sat, Sun 10.00–17.00), e-mail: email@gmts.co.uk or visit www.motgm.uk

Sunday 26 March

Aston Manor Road Transport Museum 'Models in the Museum'. Static and working model displays Models in the Museum. Numerous displays and working layouts of most forms of transport. Half-hourly free bus service will operate from Walsall during the day to get to the event. (No stalls). Museum located at Shenstone Drive, off Northgate, Aldridge, West Midlands WS9 8TP. 10.30–16.00. Admission: £3 Adults, £2 Child, Family £9. Enquiries: 01922 454761, website: www.amrtm.org or on Facebook (under the Museum name).

Oxford Bus Museum Mothers' Day Event with free vintage bus rides. Station Yard, Long Hanborough, Oxfordshire OX29 8LA. 10.30–16.30. Bus services at 12.15 and 14.45. Details: 01296 337622 or visit: www.oxfordbusmuseum.org.uk

Saturday 1 April

South East Bus Festival, Kent Showground, on A249 at Detling, near Maidstone, Kent ME14 3JF. 10.00–16.00. Five-minute-frequency free bus service around the showground that normally deploys around 40 of the vehicles entered, plus sales stands and model displays inside the exhibition hall, talks by guest speakers, slide shows and the Reunion Tea Room where former East Kent, Maidstone & District and Maidstone Corporation staff can meet up to reminisce over a cup of tea or coffee. Full details are shown at: www.arrivabus.co.uk/south-east-bus-festival with regular updates on the event's Facebook page at: www.facebook.com/southeastbusfestival. Information about the Heritage Transport Show can be found online at: www.kentshowground.co.uk/heritage-transport-show

Sunday 2 April

St. Helens. North West Museum of Road Transport Classic Car Show. In conjunction with North West Casual Classics. Come and see lots of restored classic cars from the last 60 years or so on display in the Museum. 11.00–16.00. Free Heritage Bus Rides, light refreshments. Museum is near to St. Helens Central rail and bus stations Free car parking nearby. Admission: Adult £4.25, Concessions £3.25, Children 5-17 £2.50, Family (2+2) £12.50. Further information from website: www.nwmort.co.uk or Tel: 01744 451681. North West Museum of Road Transport, The Old Bus Depot, 51 Hall Street, St Helens WA10 1DU.

Hemel Hempstead and Tring Vintage Bus Running Day.

Commemorating the 40th Anniversary of the closure of Tring Garage, also there will be a number of RT-operated journeys over route 301 between Aylesbury and Watford. Further details from Amersham & District Motorbus Society, 68 Hitcham Road, Taplow, Maidenhead SL6 0LZ, or e-mail: info@amershammotorbussociety.co.uk or on Society website: www.amershammotorbussociety.co.uk

Saturday 8 April

Enfield Transport Bazaar, St. Paul's Centre, 102 Church Street, Enfield EN2 6AR. Junction of Church Street, Chase Side and Windmill Hill in the heart of Enfield Town, just two minutes walk from Enfield Chase station (Great Northern Hertford North line) or ten minutes from Enfield Town Station (London Overground). All buses serving Enfield Town stop within five minutes' walk. Features up to forty stalls selling all kinds of transport books, photos, DVDs, maps, timetables, tickets and other memorabilia. Bazaar open 11.00–14.30. Admission £3 (acc. children free). Further details of events, please send SSAE to: NLETE, 8 The Rowans, Palmers Green, N13 5AD or e-mail: nlevents@outlook.com

Sunday 9 April

South Yorkshire Transport Museum Open Day at South Yorkshire Transport Museum, Unit 9, Waddington Way, Aldwarke, Rotherham S65 3SH. Open 10.30–16.00, shop and café open. Free heritage shuttle bus from Rotherham Bus Station (Stand C1) at 11.45, returning from Museum at 14.00. Admission £4, Concessions £2.50, Family £10 (max. two adults). Further details from: info@sytm.co.uk or Tel: 07852 298082. Website: www.sytm.co.uk

Ipswich Transport Museum. Ipswich Bus Rally. 11.00–16.00. An event featuring classic buses and coaches centred on Portman Road car park. The event will be linked to the Museum via a special free bus service. Admission: Adult £5.50, Child £3.50, Concessions £5.00, Family £16 (up to 2+3). Ipswich Transport Museum, Old Trolleybus Depot, Cobham Road, Ipswich IP3 9JD. Details: 01473 715666 or visit: www.ipswichtransportmuseum.co.uk

London Bus Museum Spring Bus & Coach Gathering. At the Museum, Brooklands Road, Weybridge, Surrey (Sat Nav: KT13 0SL). Up to 200 buses and coaches on display plus classic buses in service, indoor displays, stalls and children's entertainment. 10.00–17.00. Admission includes London Bus Museum and most attractions at Brooklands Museum. Connecting bus from Weybridge railway station. Free parking at Museum. Tel: 01932 837994, e-mail: londonbusmuseum@btinternet.com Website: www.londonbusmuseum.com

Saturday/Sunday 15/16 April

East Anglia Transport Museum Easter Egg Hunt. (12.00–17.00 both days). Free park & ride service operates on both days. East Anglia Transport Museum, Chapel Rd, Carlton Colville, Lowestoft, Suffolk NR33 8BL. Telephone (01502) 518459, e-mail: admin@eatransportmuseum.co.uk or visit website: www.eatransportmuseum.co.uk for full details.

Kirkby Stephen & Brough Easter Classic Commercial Vehicle Rally. Stalls and displays at Kirkby Stephen Town Centre, East Station Yard and Brough.

Saturday–Monday 15–17 April

The Trolleybus Museum at Sandtoft. Easter Weekend Trolleydays, Sandtoft, nr Doncaster. Details: 01724 711391 or visit: www.sandtoft.org.uk

Sunday 16 April

10th Penzance VR Revival and Vintage Bus Running Day. Organised by Cornwall Bus Preservation Society, based on Penzance bus station with services to Camborne, Land's End, St Ives, St Just, Marazion, Mousehole, Perranuthnoe and Praa Sands. Contacts: Mel Williams, Cornwall Bus Preservation Society, 10 Collygree Park, Goldsithney, Penzance, Cornwall, TR20 9LY, e-mail: Melvyl1@aol.com website: www.cornwallbuspreservation.co.uk or www.tvagwot.org.uk for entry forms and details of programme availability before the event.

Oxford Bus Museum Easter Chick Hunt

Free vintage bus rides at 12.15 and 14.45. Details: Oxford Bus Museum, Station Yard, Long Hanborough, Oxfordshire OX29 8LA. 10.30–16.30. Tel: 01296 337622 or visit: www.oxfordbusmuseum.org.uk

'Transport Festival' at Lincolnshire Road Transport Museum, Whisby Road, North Hykeham, Lincoln. 10.00 to 17.00. Adult admission £7, accompanied children free. Displays, visiting vehicles, sales stands, refreshments, and a variety of buses and coaches operating free services from Lincoln Railway Station and local park & ride (from Teal Park, Whisby Road (just off A46 Lincoln by-pass / Whisby roundabout.) Please use our bus services as parking on site limited to 'blue badge' holders. Visiting vintage/classic/preserved vehicles welcome, but please contact in advance if bringing bus/coach/HGV. Details: 01522 500566 / 01522 689497 / 07984 872994, www.lvvs.org.uk / info@lvvs.org.uk / @LincsRTM on Facebook / Twitter.



Titans at Amberley. JMT SV 6107, an all-Leyland PD1 keeps company with Northern Counties-bodied Leyland PD3/4 Southdown 260 (BUF 260C). DAVID JUKES

St Helens. North West Museum of Road Transport Easter Egg Hunt.

11.00–16.00. Free Heritage Bus Rides, light refreshments. Museum is near to St. Helens Central rail and bus stations Free car parking nearby. Admission: Tickets for Egg Hunt £8, otherwise Adult £4.25, Concessions £3.25, Children 5–17 £2.50, Family (2+2) £12.50. Further information from website: www.nwmort.co.uk or Tel: 01744 451681. North West Museum of Road Transport, The Old Bus Depot, 51 Hall Street, St Helens WA10 1DU.

Liverpool. Merseyside Transport Trust 'Port Panorama' Running Day.

More information will be available at: www.mttrust.co.uk Programme available in advance or on the day.

Sunday/Monday 16/17 April

The Transport Museum Wythall. Operating Days. Museum open 10.30–17.00 (last admission 16.30). Enjoy rides on the classic buses and miniature steam railway. Museum bus service 750 operates on both days from Holloway Circus (Suffolk St Queensway, near New Alexandra Theatre), central Birmingham, at 10.30 and 11.45 (fare £2.50 each way) and from Maypole at 10.50 and 12.05. Admission: £7 adult, £3.50 child. Family tickets available. Admission and all-day bus riding ticket: £12 adult, £6 child. For further details contact the Transport Museum, Chapel Lane, Wythall B47 6JX. Telephone: 01564 826471, e-mail: enquiries@wythall.org.uk or visit website: www.wythall.org.uk

National Tramway Museum. World War II Home Front.

10.00–17.30. Crich Tramway Village, near Matlock, Derbyshire DE4 5DP. Details: e-mail: enquiry@tramway.co.uk, tel: 01773 854321 or visit: www.tramway.co.uk

Monday 17 April

Oxford Bus Museum Vintage bus rides with visiting buses participating. Regular free vintage bus services to Oxford Parkway, Witney and Woodstock. Station Yard, Long Hanborough, Oxfordshire OX29 8LA. Open 10.30–16.30. Details: 01296 337622 or visit: www.oxfordbusmuseum.org.uk

Ipswich Transport Museum Easter Egg Trail. 11.00–16.00. Come and see what we've been up to over the winter. Follow the clues to find where Mr Fox has hidden our eggs! Includes free bus rides. Event supported by FirstGroup. Admission: Adult £7, Child £4.50 (Under 5 free), Concessions £6, Family £20. Ipswich Transport Museum, Old Trolleybus Depot, Cobham Road, Ipswich IP3 9JD. Details: 01473 715666 or visit: www.ipswichtransportmuseum.co.uk

Saturday 22 April

Quorn & Woodhouse, Leicestershire. Bus & Rail Event, Station Yard, Great Central Railway, 10.00–17.00. Display of buses and coaches. Heritage bus services in local area and rail trips. Transport sale stalls. Contacts: Leicester Transport Heritage Trust, www.ltht.org.uk, e-mail: info@ltht.org.uk, phone 07891 071908 or 0116 275 1642.

Irish Transport Heritage Annual Bus & Coach Rally

50-year Anniversary. For more information and entry forms contact: Howard Cunningham, Irish Transport Heritage, 3 Donegall Drive, Whitehead, Co. Antrim, BT38 9LT. Mobile 07738 941848, e-mail: howard@upsilon.org.uk or online at www.ith.org.uk

Saturday/Sunday 22/23 April

5th Annual Wellingborough Bus Rally, Wellingborough Museum, Castle Way, Wellingborough NN8 1XB. Open both days 10.00–16.30, admission free. Buses and other vehicles on display, free bus rides, enthusiast stalls, museum shop and cafe. For details and stall/vehicle entry forms contact Steve Loveridge, 75 Bakers Crescent, Irchester NN29 7BA, or e-mail: wellingboroughmuseum@msn.com

Sunday 23 April**Teesside Vintage Bus Running Day organised by The 500 Group.**

Based at The Transporter Bridge, Middlesbrough, now over a hundred years old. Free vintage services from 10.30 with links from Middlesbrough bus station and Stockton High Street. Various routes around Teesside, vintage Coach Tour into North Yorkshire and an Express Coach Service using vintage coaches to historic Yarm. There will be up to 25 buses on at least five timetabled routes, static displays, stalls etc. Full details and entry forms from 01642 317039 (withheld numbers barred) or by e-mail: details-500group@ntlworld.com

Aston Manor Road Transport Museum Spring Running Day.

Welcome the warmer weather with an opportunity to ride on museums and friends buses to a variety of destinations. Guest vehicles, as well as our own, running free services throughout the day to a number of destinations. Sales stands also present. Museum located at Shenstone Drive, off Northgate, Aldridge, West Midlands WS9 8TP. 10.30–16.00. Admission: £5 Adults, £2 Child, Family £13 (includes event programme). Enquiries: 01922 454761, website: www.amrtm.org or on Facebook (under the Museum name).

Kent's All-Ford Show, details at: www.kentsallfordshow.co.uk

Oxford Bus Museum 'Drive it Day' event with visiting Morris Minis and other vintage cars. Open 10.30–16.30 with free vintage bus rides at 12.15 and 14.45. Station Yard, Long Hanborough, Oxfordshire OX29 8LA. Details: 01296 337622 or visit: www.oxfordbusmuseum.org.uk

Amberley Museum & Heritage Centre 'Bus Riders Day'. Buses galore at this early season meet, for families and enthusiasts alike. Refreshments available. Amberley Museum & Heritage Centre, Bury, West Sussex BN18 9LT. Details: Tel: 01798 831370, e-mail: office@amberleymuseum.co.uk Website: www.amberleymuseum.co.uk

Friday/Saturday 28/29 April

London Transport Museum, Depot Discovery Tours at Acton Depot. Museum Depot, Acton Town, 2 Museum Way, 118-120 Gunnersbury Lane W3 9BQ. All tours last for approximately two hours. Tickets must be pre-booked online or via our Ticket Office on 0207 565 7298 (open 10.00-17.30 daily) Adult £12, Concession £10, under 16s must be accompanied by an adult. Tickets must be pre-booked. Details: 020 7565 7298 or visit: www.ltmuseum.co.uk

Saturday–Monday 29 April–1 May

Llandudno Transport Festival. Mayday Bank Holiday Weekend at Bodafon Fields, Llandudno, North Wales LL30 3BW. All details (SAE please): Llandudno Transport Festival, 48 Church Road, Rhos on Sea, Colwyn Bay, Conwy County LL28 4YS. Details: info@llantransfest.co.uk or visit: www.llantransfest.co.uk

The Trolleybus Museum at Sandtoft. Yorkshire Weekend Trolleydays, Sandtoft, nr Doncaster. Details: 01724 711391 or visit: www.sandtoft.org.uk

Rushden Cavalcade of Transport and Country Fair, A6 Bedford Road, south of Rushden, Northants. NN10 0SN. Free parking. Details: www.cavalcade.org.uk

National Tramway Museum. Beer & Bands at Crich. 10.00 – 17.30. Crich Tramway Village, near Matlock, Derbyshire DE4 5DP. Details: e-mail: enquiry@tramway.co.uk, telephone 01773 854321 or visit: www.tramway.co.uk

Sunday 30 April

Keighley Bus Museum Open Day and Rear Engine Bus Running Day, as many rear engine buses as possible will be in service on the free heritage bus service in the local area (all other bus types welcome and in operation), large transport collectors fair, refreshments and toilet facilities available in the museum. 10am – 5pm. Keighley Bus Museum Trust is at Unit 5 River Technology Park, Riverside, Keighley BD21 4JP. For more details or to enter a vehicle or sales stall please contact 07546 704558, e-mail: enquiries@kbmt.org.uk or visit: www.kbmt.org.uk

East Grinstead Running Day. Details (SAE please): Country Bus Rallies, 19 Hampton Way, East Grinstead RH19 4SG.

North East Bus & Coach Show, Location TBA. Details: www.nebpt.co.uk

Sunday/Monday 30 April/1 May

The Transport Museum Wythall. Operating Days

Museum open 10.30–17.00 (last admission 16.30). Enjoy rides on the classic buses and miniature steam railway. Museum bus service 750 operates on both days from Holloway Circus (Suffolk St Queensway, near New Alexandra Theatre), central Birmingham, at 10.30 and 11.45 (fare £2.50 each way) and from Maypole at 10.50 and 12.05. Admission: £7 adult, £3.50 child. Family tickets available. Admission and all-day bus riding ticket: £12 adult, £6 child. For further details contact the Transport Museum, Chapel Lane, Wythall B47 6JX. Telephone: 01564 826471, e-mail: enquiries@wythall.org.uk or visit website: www.wythall.org.uk

Monday 1 May

Winchester Buses Running Day. Up the 30 heritage buses and coaches from King Alfred and other former local operators will operate free services on numerous routes in Winchester and the surrounding area between 09:30 and 17:00. Journeys will start and finish in central Winchester either at the bus station or in the Broadway. A transport bazaar is planned in Winchester Guildhall. For details see www.fokab.org.uk or phone 01737 823436.

Oxford Bus Museum Vintage buses to Witney (Market Place). Free vintage bus rides from OBM at 11.15 then every hour until 15.15. Station Yard, Long Hanborough, Oxfordshire OX29 8LA. Open 10.30–16.30. Details: 01296 337622 or visit: www.oxfordbusmuseum.org.uk

Wednesday 3 May

Samuel Ledgard Society Annual Film Show Evening. The Yorkshire Film Archive presents a film show at the Grove Centre, New Street, Horsforth, Leeds, LS18 4BH. Doors open 19.00 for a 19.30 kick-off with archive footage



On Broadway. Wilts & Dorset 846 (TRU 947J), a 1971 Bristol RELL6G prepares for departure during last year's King Alfred Running Day. DAVID JUKES

of Yorkshire transport compiled exclusively for the SLS. Admission is £3. Enquiries: Barry Rennison, phone; 0113 236 3695 e-mail: rennison@cc-email.co.uk. Website: www.samuelledgardsociety.org.uk.

Saturday 6 May

South Shields Model Bus Show 2017 organised by Model Bus Federation North East Area. Salvation Army Hall, Wawn Street, South Shields NE33 4EB. Near the Hedworth Hall, 5min from Chichester Metro. Admission: Adults £2 Children & Concessions £1. Commemorative Display marking 90 years since formation of The Eden. Motorised and Static displays, Photographic Sales, Model Trade Stands, Slide Shows & Films, Refreshments. Further details/enquiries please contact 0191 378 2128 or 07773 923704.

Wales on Wheels. The fifth Wales on Wheels will be held at the National Waterfront Museum in Swansea. The event is a joint effort by the Roads & Road Transport History Association, National Waterfront Museum, Swansea Museum and Swansea Bus Museum. Participation and entry is free. More details at www.rtha.org.uk/wales-on-wheels

Theydon Bois Transport Bazaar & Vintage Bus Display, Theydon Bois Village Hall, Coppice Row, Essex CM16 7ER. Five min level walk from Theydon Bois Central Line Station, (LU Zone 6). Up to 40 stalls selling all kinds of bus and railway memorabilia, books, photos, maps, timetables, etc. Approx. 20 vintage buses on display, some giving free rides around Epping Forest, subject to vehicle and crew availability. Open 11.00–15.30. Admission £3 (accompanied children free). Refreshments available. **No public car parking.** Further details of events, please send SSAE to: NLETE, 8 The Rowans, Palmers Green, N13 5AD or e-mail: nlevents@outlook.com

Saturday/Sunday 6/7 May

UK Coach Rally, Blackpool Promenade. Details: www.coachdisplays.co.uk/

Sunday 7 May

Glasgow Vintage Vehicle Trust Open Sunday. Bridgeton Bus Garage, for events the public entrance is in Broad Street, Glasgow. The garage will be open to visitors from 11.00 until 16.00. Admission prices: Adults £ 3.50, Child/OAP £2, Family £ 8. Details: Glasgow Vintage Vehicle Trust 76 Fordneuk Street, Glasgow, G40 3AH. E-mail: info@gvvt.org. Website: www.gvvt.org.

Barry, South Wales. Cardiff Transport Preservation Group Running Day at the Bus Depot, Broad Street, Barry, South Wales CF62 7AH. Celebrating the CTPG's 25th Birthday stalls at the Depot and trips to the surrounding area and our separate storage site. See website (www.ctpg.co.uk) and Facebook page for updates or e-mail: info@ctpg.co.uk

47th Ipswich–Felixstowe Vehicle Run. The premier road run in East Anglia. Over 500 vehicles including cars, lorries, motorcycles, buses and military vehicles gather in Christchurch Park and depart at 11.30. They'll be on display on Felixstowe Promenade in the afternoon. Participating vehicle owners must apply/enter in advance. Vehicles must be over 30 years old and an entry/admin fee is payable, see website for details. Museum is open. Admission: Adult £5.50, Child £3.50, Concessions £5, Family £16 (up to 2+3). Ipswich Transport Museum, Old Trolleybus Depot, Cobham Road, Ipswich IP3 9JD. Details: 01473 715666 or visit: www.ipswichtransportmuseum.co.uk

Historic Commercial Vehicle Society 56th London to Brighton Run. www.hcvs.co.uk

Thursday 11 May

National Tramway Museum Horse Tram Day. 10.00–17.00. Crich Tramway Village, near Matlock, Derbyshire DE4 5DP. Details: e-mail: enquiry@tramway.co.uk, telephone 01773 854321 or visit: www.tramway.co.uk

Saturday 13 May

Faversham Transport Weekend Bus Day. Bus & Commercial vehicles display in the town centre 10.00–16.00. Free rides on vintage buses around the town and local area all day. Entry forms from Roland Graves, 17 Ashkeys, Vigo, Gravesend, Kent DA13 0SL. e-mail: rolyg@supanet.com

Saturday/Sunday 13/14 May

East Anglia Transport Museum 1940s Weekend. Join us once again for a wonderful look back at the roaring 1940s. There will be a free park and ride service and bus services running to Lowestoft and Beccles using period buses, along with visiting vehicles of the era on both days. There will be trade stands and our BBQ in the park, plus early evening running of our vehicle fleet on Saturday in the unique setting of the museum, as well as the sounds of the music playing and dancing. Price concession for those coming in costume. Saturday 11.00–18.00 and Sunday 11.00–17.00. East Anglia Transport Museum, Chapel Rd, Carlton Colville, Lowestoft, Suffolk NR33 8BL. Tel (01502) 518459, e-mail: admin@eatransportmuseum.co.uk or visit: www.eatransportmuseum.co.uk for full details.

The Trolleybus Museum at Sandtoft. Weekend Trolleydays, Sandtoft, nr Doncaster. Details: 01724 711391 or visit: www.sandtoft.org.uk

Sunday 14 May

South Yorkshire Transport Museum Open Day, including Bus Running Day at South Yorkshire Transport Museum, Unit 9, Waddington Way, Aldwarke, Rotherham S65 3SH. Open 10.30–16.00, shop and café open. Free heritage shuttle bus from Rotherham bus station (Stand C1) at 11.45, returning from Museum at 14.00. Preserved buses running to Conisbrough Castle. Admission £4, Concessions £2.50, Family £10 (max. two adults). Further details from: info@sytym.co.uk or Tel: 07852 298082. Details: www.sytym.co.uk/runningday

2nd Annual Scarborough Busfest and Running Day also celebrating 110 years of Plaxton. 10.00–17.00. Ryndle Crescent car park, off Northstead Manor Drive, YO11 3LW. All buses and coaches welcome, especially Plaxton-bodied vehicles. Free bus services. Trade stalls welcome. Food available. Organised by the West Riding Bus Group. Application forms available on our web site www.wrbg.weebly.com and Facebook. Contacts: wrbg@talktalk.net or Telephone 07774 626475

5th Taunton Vintage Bus Day. Castle Green and adjacent bus station (Post code for satnav etc. TA1 4AD). 10.30–6.30. Free entry. Display of vintage buses. Over 40 buses from the 1940s to the 1990s attended 2016 event. Free rides on frequent town and country routes. Departures every 5min at 2016 event. Sales stalls. Town centre site with all facilities available nearby. Details: www.tauntonrunningday.wordpress.com or tauntonrunningday@yahoo.co.uk

Swansea Bus Museum's Early Summer Running Day. Celebrating the 103rd anniversary of the inaugural South Wales Transport services, featuring open top bus rides around Swansea Bay and services to other destinations. The museum will feature a display of our own and visiting vehicles as well as family-themed and enthusiast stalls. Adults £5, members and under 16s FREE. SA1 Business Park, Langdon Road (East), Port Tennant, Swansea SA1 8QY. Full details on website: www.swanseabusmuseum.com e-mail: SwanseaBM@outlook.com or Tel: 01792 732832.

Oxford Bus Museum Vintage bus rides. 10.30–16.30 with bus rides at 12.15 and 14.45. Station Yard, Long Hanborough, Oxfordshire OX29 8LA. Details: 01296 337622 or visit: www.oxfordbusmuseum.org.uk

Saturday/Sunday 20/21 May

Museum of Transport Greater Manchester. MRX Model Railway Exhibition. Boyle Street, Cheetham, Manchester M8 8UW. 10.00–17.00. Family friendly day out, featuring a wide variety of operational model railway layouts. Revised admission charge. Free heritage bus service to and from Manchester Victoria every 20min. 09.50–16.50. For details call 0161 205 2122 (Wed, Sat, Sun 10.00–17.00), e-mail: email@gmts.co.uk or visit www.motgm.co.uk

Rydbus: Isle of Wight Bus & Coach Museum, Ryde. A network of free vintage bus services, similar to those seen in and around Ryde in the 1960s/70s/80s will be operated using preserved buses and coaches, many of which are typical of the types used in the area during that period. Refreshment and other usual facilities will be available at the Museum. Further details: www.iwbuseum.org.uk Isle of Wight Bus & Coach Museum, The Bus Depot, Park Road, Ryde, IoW PO33 2BE. Tel: 01983 533352.

Haworth, Yorkshire 1940s Weekend. Free bus service plus small static vehicle display. Free vintage bus service operated by Aire Valley Transport Group. Details on: www.avtg.co.uk

Sunday 21 May

Fenland BusFest 2017. 10.00–17.00. Free bus services from event in Whittlesey to Peterborough, Ramsey (for Classic Car Show), Thorney, Chatteris and March via Turves. Details: www.easternbusgroup.co.uk/busfest.html

Staines Vintage Bus Running Day. A second visit to the Staines area where it is planned to cover a number of Central Area as well as a selection of Country Bus routes. Details from Amersham & District Motorbus Society, 68 Hitcham Road, Taplow, Maidenhead SL6 0LZ or e-mail: info@amershammotorbussociety.co.uk or: www.amershammotorbussociety.co.uk

Chippenham Bus Rally and Running Day. Free bus rides radiating from the town's bus station. A selection of vintage buses and coaches on display nearby. Vehicles taking part will include examples from bus companies that used to operate into Chippenham such as Western National, Bath Services, Bristol Omnibus, Swindon & District and Badgerline. In addition there will be a selection of stalls selling books, photographs and models. Entry forms for vehicles and stalls e-mail: jhitchingsbus@blueyonder.co.uk or phone 07746 412555. More information at www.bristolbusevents.co.uk and nearer the time details will appear on the Bristol Harbourside Bus Rally & Running Day facebook page.

The Hastings Trolleybus Restoration Group 25th annual show on the Oval (On the A21, about half a mile from Hastings town centre). As always it's a free admission event for the public and exhibitors with a small charge for stallholder entries. Entry forms and information are online at www.1066.net/trolley or from Ion Castro telephone (01424) 437468.

Scottish Vintage Bus Museum Lathalmond, Fife KY12 0SJ. Bus Running Day and Transport Collectors Fair, (10.00–17.00). Details: 01383 623380 or at www.svbm.org.uk

Friday/Saturday 26/27 May

London Transport Museum, Depot Discovery Tours at Acton Depot. Museum Depot, Acton Town, 2 Museum Way, 118–120 Gunnersbury Lane W3 9BQ. All tours last for approximately two hours. Tickets must be pre-booked online or via our Ticket Office on 0207 565 7298 (open 10.00–17.30 daily) Under 16s must be accompanied by an adult. Adult £12, Concession £10, under 16's must be accompanied by an adult. Tickets must be pre-booked. Details: 020 7565 7298 or visit: www.ltmuseum.co.uk

Saturday/Sunday 27/28 May

The 2017 AEC Society Annual Rally. Newark Showground, Newark-on-Trent, Notts. Vehicle entry is free and open to all HGV's and PSV's over 7.5ton. Entry £10 per day including free programme. On the Sunday, a shuttle bus will operate from Newark, details of which will be published nearer the date on the Society website: www.aecsociety.com. This year, as well as being joined by REV's, The AEC Society are pleased that The Bedford Enthusiasts Club have chosen to hold their annual gathering at The AEC Society rally. Enquiries: Howard Berry, AEC Society Rally Secretary at 7 Donaldson Drive, Cheswardine, Shropshire, TF9 2NY (enclosing an SAE please), call 0750 4974776 or e-mail: membership@aecsociety.com

Saturday–Monday 27–29 May

The Trolleybus Museum at Sandtoft. Weekend Trolleydays, Sandtoft, nr Doncaster. Details: 01724 711391 or visit: www.sandtoft.org.uk

Saturday–Sunday 27 May–4 June

National Tramway Museum. 'Beside the Seaside'. 10.00 – 17.30. Crich Tramway Village, near Matlock, Derbyshire DE4 5DP. Details: e-mail: enquiry@tramway.co.uk, telephone 01773 854321 or visit: www.tramway.co.uk

Sunday 28 May

Tilford Bus & Coach Rally. Rural Life Centre, Reeds Road, Tilford, nr Farnham, Surrey GU10 2DL. Chassis of 1928 Dennis E OT 8902 on display, free bus rides, steam train operating, stalls, café etc. Also includes classic cars and other vehicles. Free vintage bus service from Farnham station (down platform) to the event and return from 09.30. Free car park, admission charge to the Museum Complex including the Rally. Applications for buses, coaches, stalls to: randmlemfoster@btinternet.com or telephone: 01252 311414. More details contact the Rural Life Centre on 01252 795571.

28th 2017 Bus Running & Aviation Day at Hooton Park Hangars, Ellesmere Port, Cheshire. (M53 Junction 6). 10.00–16.00. Free entry. As many ex-Crosville buses as possible giving rides to various parts of The Wirral, also a collection of aviation displays. Contact J. Nolan on 0151 639 4929 or e-mail: Johnnolan201@talktalk.net for details/entries.

Ribble Vehicle Preservation Trust 7th Morecambe Bay Running

Day, Vehicles on display on Morecambe Promenade and running every 20min 10.30–17.30 between Heysham and Carnforth via Morecambe also circular tours of Morecambe. Due to limited space, guest vehicles by prior agreement only. For more details check our website: www.rvpt.co.uk

Sunday/Monday 28/29 May

The Transport Museum Wythall. Operating Days. Museum open 10.30–17.00 (last admission 16.30). Enjoy sales stands, rides on the classic buses and miniature steam railway plus, on Monday only, the annual Model

Bus Federation display. Museum bus service 750 operates on both days from Holloway Circus (Suffolk St Queensway, near New Alexandra Theatre), central Birmingham, at 10.30 and 11.45 (fare £2.50 each way) and from Maypole at 10.50 and 12.05. Admission: £7 adult, £3.50 child. Family tickets available. Admission and all-day bus riding ticket: £12 adult, £6 child. For further details contact the Transport Museum, Chapel Lane, Wythall B47 6JX. Telephone: 01564 826471, e-mail: enquiries@wythall.org.uk or visit website: www.wythall.org.uk

Monday 29 May

Buckinghamshire Railway Centre Annual Bus Rally. Quainton Road station nr Aylesbury HP22 4BY. 10.00–16.00. All buses and coaches welcome, plenty of hard standing. Heritage Bus Link from Aylesbury Vale Parkway railway station (hourly). Vehicle entries welcome, please contact Louis Richards on 01296 655720. For more information contact the Railway by e-mail: marketing@bucksrailcentre.org or quaintonbusrally2@gmail.com. Tel: 01296 655720. Website: www.bucksrailcentre.org. Facebook: 'Buckinghamshire Railway Centre' or write to Buckinghamshire Railway Centre, Station Road, Quainton, HP22 4BY

Oxford Bus Museum Vintage Buses to Oxford Parkway Station via Kidlington. 10.30–16.30 with bus rides hourly 11.15–15.15. Station Yard, Long Hanborough, Oxfordshire OX29 8LA. Details: 01296 337622 or visit: www.oxfordbusmuseum.org.uk

Ipswich Transport Museum 'I want to Ride my Bicycle!' An event focussing on 'two-wheeled' items in our collection, including demonstrations of vintage and historic bicycles. See a boneshaker, Penny Farthing and perhaps a Raleigh Bomber. Reduced admission for visitors who arrive by cycle. Admission: Adult £7, Child £4.50, Concessions £6.00, Family £20. Ipswich Transport Museum, Old Trolleybus Depot, Cobham Road, Ipswich IP3 9JD. Details: 01473 715666 or visit: www.ipswichtransportmuseum.co.uk

Sunday 4 June

Glasgow Vintage Vehicle Trust Open Sunday. Bridgeton Bus Garage, for events the public entrance is in Broad Street, Glasgow. Open: 11.00–16.00. Admission: Adults £ 3.50, Child/OAP £2, Family £ 8. Details: Glasgow Vintage Vehicle Trust (Scottish Charity No. SC034066), 76 Fordneuk Street, Glasgow, G40 3AH. E-mail: info@gvvt.org. Website: www.gvvt.org.

St Helens North West Museum of Road Transport Classic Car Show. Celebrating the best of the motor industry in Britain and abroad. 11.00–16.00. Free heritage bus rides, light refreshments. Museum is near St Helens central rail and bus stations Free car parking nearby. Admission: Adult £4.25, Concessions £3.25, Children 5-17 £2.50, Family (2+2) £12.50. Further information: www.nwmort.co.uk or Tel: 01744 451681. North West Museum of Road Transport, The Old Bus Depot, 51 Hall Street, St Helens WA10 1DU.

Didcot Transport Rally with vintage bus services on former GWR Road Motors routes from Didcot organised by Thames Valley & Great Western Omnibus Trust in association with Didcot Railway Centre. Contacts: TV&GWOT, 16 Samor Way, Didcot, Oxfordshire, OX11 8RF. e-mail: jonathan.radley@btinternet.com website: www.tvagwot.org.uk for entry forms and details of programme availability before the event.

Kirkby, Liverpool. NWVRT Annual Running and Open Day. Based at our Kirkby Headquarters, Unit 2, Charley Wood Road, Kirkby Industrial Estate, Kirkby L33 7SG, we will be again running a network of free services with some of our buses, timetable and event Guide will be available. Sales stands and refreshments inside main building. If you would like to book a vehicle or stall, details can be found at www.nwvrt.co.uk or call 07753 248053

HCVS Tyne-Tees Run.

LT Country Bus Rally, Hertford. Details (SAE please): Country Bus Rallies, 19 Hampton Way, East Grinstead RH19 4SG.

Saturday 10 June

Bournemouth Bus Rally & Running Day, Kings Park. Details: jonathanhawkins387@yahoo.co.uk

Sunday 11 June

South Yorkshire Transport Museum Open Day including Model Transport Exhibition at South Yorkshire Transport Museum, Unit 9, Waddington Way, Aldwarke, Rotherham S65 3SH. Open 10.30–16.00, shop and café open. Free heritage shuttle bus from Rotherham bus station (Stand C1) at 11.45, returning from Museum at 14.00. Admission £4, Concessions £2.50, Family £10 (max. two adults). Further details from: info@sytmm.co.uk or Tel: 07852 298082. Details also on website: www.sytmm.co.uk/models

The Southsea Spectacular. Southsea Common, Portsmouth from 10.00. Full event and contact details: www.southernbusevents.co.uk



The North West Vehicle Restoration Trust's Open Day is a great venue for fans of more recent buses in preservation such as this pair of MCW Metrobus Mk2s Northern 3501 (UTN 501Y) and West Midlands 2989 (E989 VUK), the latter in heritage Wolverhampton livery. PHILIP LAMB

Barry Festival of Transport. Organised by Cardiff Transport Preservation Group. Vehicle display at Barry Island and open day at the Depot. (Bus Depot, Broad Street, Barry, South Wales, CF62 7AH). Hundreds of classic cars, buses and commercials on display around Barry Island promenade, preserved buses providing transport from the park and ride site to the Depot and Barry Island. Refreshments and many stalls available. Please look at the website (www.ctpg.co.uk) and Facebook page for updates or e-mail: info@ctpg.co.uk

The 49th East Coast Run Hull–Bridlington, finishing at Sewerby cliff top car park, invites all Buses, Coaches, Commercials, Cars, Vans and Motorcycles over 15 years old, Transport related stalls at Sewerby. Entry forms from Kath Kirk, EYTCC, 11 St Augustine Drive, Skirlaugh, East Yorkshire HU11 5EX. e-mail: events@eytcc.org.uk

National Tramway Museum. Classic Transport Gathering. 10.00–17.30. Crich Tramway Village, near Matlock, Derbyshire DE4 5DP. Details: e-mail: enquiry@tramway.co.uk, tel: 01773 854321 or visit: www.tramway.co.uk

Friday–Sunday 16–18 June

Royal Blue and Associated Motorways Run, Thames Valley & Great Western Omnibus Trust, from Northampton to Bournemouth, Bournemouth to Exmouth and Exeter to the Home Counties. Contacts: Colin Billington, Ledger Farm, Forest Green Road, Fifield, Maidenhead, Berks, SL6 2NR, phone: 07990 505373, e-mail: enquiries@tvagwot.org.uk website: www.tvagwot.org.uk for entry forms and details of programme availability before the event.

Saturday 17 June

The Trolleybus Museum at Sandtoft. 1940s Trolleyday, Sandtoft, nr Doncaster. Details: 01724 711391 or visit: www.sandtoft.org.uk

Sunday 18 June

East Anglia Transport Museum Dad's Day Out. Open 12.00–16.30. Why not bring dad along today for a father's day treat and possibly have a go at conducting one of our trolley buses or even guarding our train, all under supervision of course. East Anglia Transport Museum, Chapel Road, Carlton Colville, Lowestoft, Suffolk NR33 8BL. Telephone (01502) 518459, e-mail: admin@eatransportmuseum.co.uk or visit website: www.eatransportmuseum.co.uk for full details.



The revived Southsea Spectacular proved a great success in 2016 despite a wet start. Southdown Northern Counties Leyland PD3/4s were much in evidence including FCD 286D newly restored in OK livery. DAVID JUKES

Sunday 18 June

The Transport Museum Wythall. Fathers' Day Out. Museum open 11.00–17.00 (last admission 16.30). Chance for Dads to enjoy big boys' toys! Classic bus and miniature steam train rides. Admission: £7 adult, £3.50 child. Family tickets available. For further details contact the Transport Museum, Chapel Lane, Wythall B47 6JX. Telephone: 01564 826471, e-mail: enquiries@wythall.org.uk or visit website: www.wythall.org.uk

Swansea Bus Museum Father's Day Running Event. Fathers and families are welcome to join in with our Father's Day running event. Visiting vehicles of all genres are welcome to display in our large yard. SA1 Business Park, Langdon Road (East), Port Tennant, Swansea SA1 8QY. See our website www.swanseabusmuseum.com for further details or e-mail: SwanseaBM@outlook.com or Tel: 01792 732832.

Peak Park Preserved Bus Gathering. Based at Rowsley South station of Peak Heritage Railway (on A6 midway between Bakewell and Matlock, Derbyshire), 0930–1700. All preserved buses (not current) are welcome. Display on 'both sides of the track'. Judging and awards. Large stall area. Frequent preserved bus services through Peak District scenery, including connections with Peak Rail's steam trains. Details and entry forms: www.chesterfield123.org.uk and www.transpirebus.org or by post from Dennis Vickers, 14, Whitting Mews, Holland Road, Old Whittington, Chesterfield, S41 9HF.

The Trolleybus Museum at Sandtoft. Trolleyday with East Yorkshire Thoroughbred Car Club Rally, Sandtoft, nr Doncaster. Details: 01724 711391 or visit: www.sandtoft.org.uk

Oxford Bus Museum Father's Day Event. 10.30–16.30, free vintage bus rides at 12.15 and 14.45. Station Yard, Long Hanborough, Oxfordshire OX29 8LA. Details: 01296 337622 or visit: www.oxfordbusmuseum.org.uk

Scottish Vintage Bus Museum, Lathalmond, Fife KY12 0SJ. Fife Historic Vehicle Club Festival of Historic Transport, (11.00–16.00). Details: www.svbm.org.uk

National Tramway Museum Horse Tram Day. 10.00–17.00. Crich Tramway Village, near Matlock, Derbyshire DE4 5DP. Details: e-mail: enquiry@tramway.co.uk, telephone 01773 854321 or visit: www.tramway.co.uk

Friday/ Saturday 23/24 June

London Transport Museum, Depot Discovery Tours at Acton Depot. Museum Depot, Acton Town, 2 Museum Way, 118–120 Gunnersbury Lane W3 9BQ. All tours approx two hours. Tickets must be pre-booked online or via our Ticket Office on 0207 565 7298 (open 10.00–17.30 daily) Under 16s must be accompanied by an adult. Adult £12, Concession £10, under 16s must be accompanied by an adult. Tickets must be pre-booked. Details: 020 7565 7298 or visit: www.ltmuseum.co.uk

Saturday 24 June

Ipswich Transport Museum Transport & Model Festival. Visit three great attractions on one ticket — the Transport Museum, Ipswich Railway Modellers Association HQ and the Ipswich Model Engineering Society. Open 10.00–16.30. A free bus service links the sites and Scograil Model Railways using historic vehicles. A modellers dream! Other attractions en route. See website for details. All attraction entry ticket is £9.50 (accompanied children £1) Ipswich Transport Museum, Old Trolleybus Depot, Cobham Road, Ipswich IP3 9JD. Details: 01473 715666 or visit: www.ipswichtransportmuseum.co.uk



An unlikely pairing at West Ham Garage last summer, Harris Bus Northern Counties-bodied DAF250 P337 ROO stands alongside London Transport DMS1 (EGP 1J), a Park Royal-bodied Daimler Fleetline. PHILIP LAMB

Saturday/Sunday 24/25 June

The First Shetland Commercial Vehicle Show. Cunningsburgh Show Field, Shetland. The commercial show is to coincide with the return of a Bedford OB Coach which spent all of its working life in the Shetland Isles. There will be a host of attractions over the weekend showcasing: trucks, buses, tractors and stationary engines covering a vast range of eras. Further information can be obtained by contacting: e-mail: john.robinson221@icloud.com phone: 01595 830220, letter: SCVPS c/o John Robinson, Stroma, Olligarth, Whiteness, Shetland, ZE29GJ or on Facebook: Shetland Commercial Vehicle Preservation Society.

Sunday 25 June. Basildon Bus Rally

Barleylands Farm Park, Billericay, Essex. CM11 2UD 'The most family friendly bus rally in Britain!' Free entry, free parking and free bus rides, 10.00–16.00. www.basildonbusrally.com and www.facebook.com/basildonbusrally

West End Festival Vintage Bus Service. Free vintage bus services in the west end of Glasgow to and from Riverside Museum (the Museum of Transport). Details: e-mail: info@gvvt.org or see website: www.gvvt.org.

London Bus Museum Summer Event. At the Museum, Brooklands Road, Weybridge, Surrey (Sat Nav: KT13 OSL). 10.00–17.00. Free parking at Museum. Details: Tel: 01932 837994, e-mail: londonbusmuseum@btinternet.com Website: www.londonbusmuseum.com

Saturday/Sunday 1/2 July

North Norfolk Railway Vintage Transport Festival, Holt station, NR25 6AJ. Free classic bus services from NNR stations and around. Sunday only: Classic car display. Entries and details: bus@johnrseward.co.uk

The Trolleybus Museum at Sandtoft. Worldwide Weekend Trolleydays, Sandtoft, nr Doncaster. Details: 01724 711391 or visit: www.sandtoft.org.uk

Sunday 2 July

Eastbourne Vintage Bus Running Day, organised by Country Bus Rallies and Eastbourne Classic Bus, based at railway station. Free services along seafront and through Meads, also to Pevensey Bay, Polegate, Beachy Head, Birling Gap and Hailsham. Contacts: Steven Wood, 97 Fordwich Rise, Hertford, SG14 2DF, phone: 07730 162605, e-mail: steven.wood@clara.co.uk Programmes £7.50 (A5 stamped addressed envelope) from Country Bus Rallies, 19 Hampton Way, East Grinstead, RH19 4SG from one month in advance, £8 on the day.

Third Saltaire Historic Bus Running Day presented by Keighley Bus Museum Trust, playing fields adjacent to Shipley Glen tramway with static vehicle displays, enthusiast stalls, on site catering and toilets. A large variety of buses will be running on various routes linking Saltaire, Shipley and Baildon with superb photographic opportunities. Shipley Glen tramway will be in full operation. 10.00–17.00. For details or to enter a vehicle or sales stall contact 07546 704558, e-mail: enquiries@kbmt.org.uk or visit: www.kbmt.org.uk

Ecclesbourne Valley Railway Bus and Coach Rally, Ecclesbourne Valley Railway, Wirksworth, Derbyshire, DE4 4FB. Got a vehicle? For entries and enquiries please contact: Geoff Clark, 01332 669497 or 07590 992627. E-Mail: geoffrey.clark3@ntlworld.com

St Helens. North West Museum of Road Transport Motorbike Day. With lots of visiting classic bikes from all eras to see. 11.00–16.00. Free Heritage Bus Rides, light refreshments. Museum is near to St Helens Central rail and bus stations, free car parking nearby. Admission: Adult £4.25, Concessions £3.25, Children 5–17 £2.50, Family (2+2) £12.50. Further information from website: www.nwmort.co.uk or Tel: 01744 451681. North West Museum of Road Transport, The Old Bus Depot, 51 Hall Street, St Helens WA10 1DU.

Glasgow Vintage Vehicle Trust Open Sunday. Bridgeton Bus Garage, for events the public entrance is in Broad Street, Glasgow. 11.00–16.00. Admission prices: Adults £ 3.50, Child/OAP £2, Family £ 8. Details: Glasgow Vintage Vehicle Trust (Scottish Charity No. SC034066), 76 Fordneuk Street, Glasgow, G40 3AH. E-mail: info@gvvt.org. Website: www.gvvt.org.

Oxford Bus Museum Vintage bus rides. 10.30–16.30 with bus rides at 12.15 and 14.45. Station Yard, Long Hanborough, Oxfordshire OX29 8LA. Details: 01296 337622 or visit: www.oxfordbusmuseum.org.uk

Friday 7 July

Fleur-de-Lys Annual Classic Vehicle Gathering. Thornes Park, Wakefield. 16.00–dusk. Open to vehicles over 25 years of age. Contact: 01924 825866

Saturday 8 July

Lancashire Model Bus Show. Organised by Model Bus Federation Lancashire and Cumbria Area. Nelson Independent Methodist Church, Netherfield Road, Nelson, Lancs. BB9 9AW. 1000–1600. Admission: Adults £3, accompanied children under 15 £1.50, under 5s free. Layouts, sales, trade stands etc. Refreshments available throughout the day. For further details, contact: krdiggins@live.co.uk

Saturday/Sunday 8/9 July**East Anglia Transport Museum ECW 30th Anniversary Weekend.**

11.00–17.00 both days. Commemorating the closure of the famous Eastern Coach Works factory in Lowestoft 30 years ago, with a weekend full of visiting ECW-bodied vehicles from all over the country. Free park & ride and bus services to Lowestoft and Beccles as well as other excursions. BBQ in the park. East Anglia Transport Museum, Chapel Rd, Carlton Colville, Lowestoft, Suffolk NR33 8BL. Telephone (01502) 518459, e-mail: admin@eatransportmuseum.co.uk or visit website: www.eatransportmuseum.co.uk for full details.

Sunday 9 July

Leyland Society Gathering. Old Warden Aerodrome, near Biggleswade, Bedfordshire. Large area of hard standing opposite the main hangars for the vehicle display. Please note that normal entry charges will apply on the day covering the vehicle display, aircraft collection or Swiss Gardens. Two free entry tickets will be provided for each vehicle entry. Vehicle entry forms can be downloaded from the Society website or by sending an SAE to Gary Dwyer, 8 St. Mary's Close, West Street, Sompting, Lancing, West Sussex, BN15 0AF. All Leylands, including any non-Society members who wish to bring their vehicle, will be extended a warm welcome. Event details can be found on www.leylandsociety.co.uk

Aston Manor Road Transport Museum. 30th Annual Open Day. Vehicle displays, stalls and free bus services running throughout the day. Museum located at Shenstone Drive, off Northgate, Aldridge, West Midlands WS9 8TP. 10.30–16.00. Admission: £5 Adults, £2 Child, Family £13 (including event programme). Enquiries: 01922 454761, website: www.amrtm.org or on Facebook (under the Museum name).

South Yorkshire Transport Museum Open Day at South Yorkshire Transport Museum, Unit 9, Waddington Way, Aldwarke, Rotherham S65 3SH. Open 10.30–16.00, shop and café open. Free heritage shuttle bus from Rotherham Bus Station (Stand C1) at 11.45, returning from Museum at 14.00. Admission £4, Concessions £2.50, Family £10 (max. two adults). Further details from: info@sytym.co.uk or Tel: 07852 298082. Website: www.sytym.co.uk

7th Annual Heath Common Transport Rally and Bus Running Day, Wakefield WF1 5DB. 10.00–17.00. Organised by the West Riding Bus Group and in conjunction with the Yorkshire Thoroughbred Car Club. Free local bus services and feeder services from outlying districts. All vintage and classic vehicles welcome. Trade stands and food. Contact www.wrbg.weebly.com for application forms. Also on Facebook. Email wrbg@talktalk.net or Tel: 07774 626475

Leatherhead Vintage Bus Running Day. Further details from Amersham & District Motorbus Society, 68 Hitcham Road, Taplow, Maidenhead SL6 0LZ or e-mail: info@amershammotorbussociety.co.uk or on Society website: www.amershammotorbussociety.co.uk

11th Annual Peterborough Bus & Commercial Vehicle Rally at Sacrewell Farm on the A47 near Peterborough, PE8 6HJ. 10.00–16.00. All preserved and modern buses, coaches and commercials welcome. Stalls also welcome. On site café, free bus service from and to Peterborough bus station and frequent free vintage bus trips to and from Nene Valley Preserved Railway. Free admission for entrants and public. Parking £5 (refunded against admission to Farm & Country Centre). Details/bus timetables/entry forms on the rally website: www.busrally.co.uk

Burscough. Merseyside Transport Trust Open Day. The Merseyside's annual Open Day at Osprey Place, Burscough Industrial Estate, Burscough, nr Ormskirk, L40 8TG. Further information: www.mttrust.co.uk

Gloucestershire Warwickshire Steam Railway 9th Bus Rally and Running Day. The GWSR Station, Toddington, Gloucestershire GL54 5DT. Parking also available at Cheltenham Racecourse Park & Ride, a short walk to the station. Details: A C Shapcott, Rally Organiser e-mail: ac.shapcott@btinternet.com Bus/sales stand entry forms will be posted on the Gloucestershire & Warwickshire website at www.gwsr.com and can be obtained by following the link to Events 2017 and then Bus Rally.

Saturday 15 July

Alton, Hants. Alton Bristol RE and Country Pub Running Day. Details: hantsandsurreyregroup@gmail.com or: www.bristol-re.moonfruit.com

Saturday/Sunday 15/16 July

National Tramway Museum Edwardian Event. 10.00–17.30. Crich Tramway Village, near Matlock, Derbyshire DE4 5DP. Details: e-mail: enquiry@tramway.co.uk, tel: 01773 854321 or visit: www.tramway.co.uk

Sunday 16 July

Alton Bus Rally & Running Day 2017. Anstey Park, Anstey Lane, Alton, Hants, GU34 2HB, 10.00–17.00. Free buses from/to Alton railway station connecting with trains from/to London Waterloo. Free feeder services from/



Visiting the East Anglia Transport Museum last year, 'Scooter' LT1076 (GO 5198) normally resides at the London Transport Museum's Acton Depot. DAVID JUKES

to Aldershot, Basingstoke, Farnham, Guildford and Winchester. 150 buses. Free bus services will operate from Anstey Park to surrounding towns and villages. Display of other types of vehicles including classic cars, lorries, motorcycles, vans, emergency services and military vehicles. Admission to the event is FREE. Catering, sales stands, toilet facilities and free parking on site. Programme (with timetables) available to purchase on day. Details/entry forms: Alton Bus Rally, 23 Somertons Close, Guildford, GU2 9YB. E-mail: altonbusrally@hotmail.co.uk or see website: www.altonbusrally.org.uk

Oxford Bus Museum Vintage bus rides. 10.30–16.30 with bus rides at 12.15 and 14.45. Station Yard, Long Hanborough, Oxfordshire OX29 8LA. Details: 01296 337622 or visit: www.oxfordbusmuseum.org.uk

32nd Annual Fleetwood Festival of Transport (Tram Sunday). Lord Street/ North Albert Street, Fleetwood Lancs FY7 6DU. 10.00–17.00, admission free. Up to 300 classic and vintage vehicles in an authentic street scene. Bands, entertainment, street theatre, bus/tram trips. Visiting heritage trams. Continental Market. Transport stalls. Full cafe and toilet facilities. Free secure parking for 3,000 + vehicles. Website for further information/entry forms etc: www.tramsunday.co.uk

Saturday 22 July

Boston, LVVVS meets the people of Lincolnshire. Up to 5 ex-Lincolnshire Road Car buses will be running free local services from Boston bus station, 10.00–15.00. In conjunction with Boston Borough Council. Details 01522 722705. www.lvvs.org.uk / info@lvvs.org.uk / @LincsRTM on Facebook / Twitter

Sunday 23 July

Kent's Kit Custom and American Car Show. Details available from: www.kentskitcustomandamericancarshow.co.uk

South Yorkshire Transport Trust Open day at Riverside Eastwood Trading estate, Rotherham, Free admission and shuttle bus to /from town centre. Over 50 residents plus visiting vehicles and sales stands. Details/entry forms: syttevents@mail.com Tel 07487 314776

Friday/Saturday 28/29 July

London Transport Museum, Depot Discovery Tours at Acton Depot. Museum Depot, Acton Town, 2 Museum Way, 118–120 Gunnersbury Lane W3 9BQ. All tours last for approximately two hours. Tickets must be pre-booked online or via our Ticket Office on 0207 565 7298 (open 10.00–17.30 daily) Under 16s must be accompanied by an adult. Adult £12, Concession £10, under 16s must be accompanied by an adult. Tickets must be pre-booked. Details: 020 7565 7298 or visit: www.ltmuseum.co.uk

Saturday 29 July

The Trolleybus Museum at Sandtoft. Gathering Saturday Trolleyday. Includes twilight trolleybus operation, BBQ and real ale beer tent. Sandtoft, nr Doncaster. Details: 01724 711391 or visit: www.sandtoft.org.uk

Saturday/Sunday 29/30 July

The first North East Festival of Transport in Sunderland. Vintage buses, traction engines and commercial vehicles, classic cars and motorbikes on display at a prime location on Sunderland's award winning sea front. Entry to the event is being opened up to any vehicle built before 2000 whether powered by steam, internal combustion or even battery; as well as specialist vehicles from current transport operators. More information and exhibitor applications are available at www.seeitdoitsunderland.co.uk/NETransportFestival

Sunday 30 July

The Trolleybus Museum at Sandtoft. Gathering 2017. Transport flea market, live music, real ale beer tent, family entertainment. Sandtoft, nr Doncaster. Details: 01724 711391 or visit: www.sandtoft.org.uk

Oxford Bus Museum Vintage Transport Festival. Celebrating 50 Years of Oxford Bus Preservation 1967-2017. Rally at Oxford Parkway Station: visiting buses, coaches and cars. Free bus rides, regular services between Museum, Oxford Parkway and Museum to Witney. Station Yard, Long Hanborough, Oxon OX29 8LA. Tel: 01296 337622 or www.oxfordbusmuseum.org.uk

Worthing Seafrost Bus Rally.**Monday 31 July**

National Tramway Museum Horse Tram Day. 10.00–17.00. Crich Tramway Village, near Matlock, Derbyshire DE4 5DP. Details: e-mail: enquiry@tramway.co.uk, telephone 01773 854321 or visit: www.tramway.co.uk

Friday–Sunday 4–6 August

Gloucestershire Vintage & Country Extravaganza, at South Cerney Airfield near Cirencester, Glos. This huge event caters for all vintage vehicle enthusiasts and includes a large bus and coach section complete with free rides around the site. Free connecting bus services are operated from Kemble railway station and Cirencester town centre. Further general information can be obtained at www.glosvintageextravaganza.co.uk Vehicle entry forms from bus_coach.svtec@yahoo.com or by ringing 07746 412555.

Sunday 6 August

Provincial Bus Rally, Stokes Bay, Gosport. 10.00–16.30. Organised by The Provincial Society. Vintage bus rides, large static display of buses, cavalcade of buses around Gosport. Supported by First Hampshire & Dorset and Lucketts Travel. Transport links: Frequent free shuttle bus connection from/to Gosport Ferry for Portsmouth: train, bus and Isle of Wight ferry links. Souvenir programme and timetable available one week before event. Contact: Website: www.provincialsociety.org

Glasgow Vintage Vehicle Trust Open Sunday. Bridgeton Bus Garage, for events the public entrance is in Broad Street, Glasgow. The garage will be open 11.00–16.00. Admission prices: Adults £ 3.50, Child/OAP £2, Family £ 8. Details: Glasgow Vintage Vehicle Trust (Scottish Charity No. SC034066), 76 Fordneuk Street, Glasgow, G40 3AH. E-mail: info@gvvt.org. Website: www.gvvt.org.

St Helens North West Museum of Road Transport 'Midland Marques of Yesteryear' featuring classic restored cars made by long-gone companies from the West Midlands on display in the Museum. 11.00–16.00. Free Heritage Bus Rides, light refreshments. Museum near to St Helens Central rail and bus stations. Free car parking nearby. Admission: Adult £4.25, Concessions £3.25, Children 5-17 £2.50, Family (2+2) £12.50. Further information from website: www.nwmort.co.uk or Tel: 01744 451681. North West Museum of Road Transport, The Old Bus Depot, 51 Hall Street, St Helens WA10 1DU.

Oxford Bus Museum Vintage bus rides. Open 10.30–16.30 with bus rides at 12.15 and 14.45. Station Yard, Long Hanborough, Oxfordshire OX29 8LA. Details: 01296 337622 or visit: www.oxfordbusmuseum.org.uk

Ipswich Transport Museum. Free Bus Rides to the Museum from the town centre and railway station (and back!). Leave the car behind and enjoy a leisurely free bus ride to and from the museum. Timetable on our website from early July. If you wish to come into the museum, normal admission charges apply (Adult £5.50, Child £3.50, Concessions £5, Family £16). Further details from Ipswich Transport Museum, Old Trolleybus Depot, Cobham Road, Ipswich IP3 9JD. Tel: 01473 715666, e-mail: enquiries@ipswichtransportmuseum.co.uk or visit: www.ipswichtransportmuseum.co.uk



For those with broad transport tastes, the Gloucestershire Vintage & Country Extravaganza at South Cerney is just the event. Stroud Valleys 5540 (EWS 748W) is a 'local' Bristol VRT/SL3. PHILIP LAMB

Tinkers Park Bus Rally and Model Railway Exhibition. Tinkers Park, Hadlow Down, Uckfield, East Sussex, TN22 4HS. 10.00–17.00. Admission: Adults £6, Under 16s £2. Model railway show with at least 12 layouts; Narrow gauge railway offering free rides; Dree Traction engine/trailer rides. Free bus services to and from site. Free car parking;; various transport related stands, Organ Museum, programmes and on-site light refreshments. For more information please also visit: www.southdownnational.com or: www.tinkerspark.com Entry forms for vehicles and bus related trade stands to: Paul Llewellyn, 'Oakview', Luxford Lane, Crowborough, TN6 2PJ.

Saturday/Sunday 12/13 August

National Tramway Museum. World War II – Home Front. 10.00–17.30. Crich Tramway Village, near Matlock, Derbyshire DE4 5DP. Details: e-mail: enquiry@tramway.co.uk, telephone 01773 854321 or visit: www.tramway.co.uk

Sunday 13 August

South Yorkshire Transport Museum Open Day at South Yorkshire Transport Museum. Unit 9, Waddington Way, Aldwarke, Rotherham S65 3SH. Open 10.30–16.00, shop and café open. Free heritage shuttle bus from Rotherham bus station (Stand C1) at 11.45, returning from Museum at 14.00. Admission £4, Concessions £2.50, Family £10 (max. two adults). Further details from: info@syt.co.uk or Tel: 07852 298082. Website: www.syt.co.uk

Dorchester. West Country Historic Omnibus and Transport Trust (WHOTT) 3rd Annual Running Day. 10.00–16.00. Top o' Town car park, Dorchester. Link with the Hardy Society celebrating 130th anniversary of his book *The Woodlanders*. A free coach tour of sites associated with the book will take place in the afternoon with an on-board commentary given by a local Hardy expert. Free parking. The rally site has a café and toilets and is ten min walk from the two railway stations. Direct trains from London and Bristol. Top o' Town car park is the site of the former Bere Regis & District headquarters, garage and main works. Entry forms and more details available shortly from our website www.busmuseum.org.uk or from our chairman Robert Crawley, Kalmia, Church Road, Colaton Raleigh, Devon EX10 0LW or by telephone 01395-567795, mobile 07974-567756, email chairman@busmuseum.org.uk.

Dewsbury Bus Museum Summer Spectacular at the Mill Outlet, Batley. Admission by programme, £3 adult, accompanied children free. Advance copy available for £4 by sending a cheque payable to West Riding Omnibus Museum Trust, 47E Dale Street, Ossett WF5 9HE. 10.00–16.30 with a full day of free services and tours. Free shuttle service from Dewsbury South Street to the Ravensthorpe Museum building & the Mill Outlet. More than 25 vehicles running in service and a large selection of visiting buses and trade stalls, Museum Café, Tombola and much more. Visiting vehicles always welcome. Free feeder services from Bradford, Castleford, Huddersfield, Keighley, Leeds, Pontefract & Wakefield. For more information visit: www.dewsburybusmuseum.co.uk

Norwich Running Day arranged by Firstbus in collaboration with EATM and ETCS.

Ipswich Transport Museum. Free Bus Rides to the Museum from town centre and railway station (and back!). Leave the car behind and enjoy a leisurely free bus ride to and from the museum. Timetable on our website from early July. If you wish to come into the museum, normal admission charges apply (Adult £5.50, Child £3.50, Concessions £5, Family £16). Further details from Ipswich Transport Museum, Old Trolleybus Depot, Cobham Road, Ipswich IP3 9JD. Tel: 01473 715666, e-mail: enquiries@ipswichtransportmuseum.co.uk or visit: www.ipswichtransportmuseum.co.uk

Saturday/Sunday 19/20 August

The Trolleybus Museum at Sandtoft. Trolleydays plus Blues & Twos Weekend. Sandtoft, nr Doncaster. Details: 01724 711391 or visit: www.sandtoft.org.uk

Scottish Vintage Bus Museum Open Weekend and Transport Collectors' Fair, Lathalmond, Fife KY12 0SJ. Details: 01383 623380 or visit: www.svbm.org.uk

Sunday 20 August

Oxford Bus Museum Vintage bus rides. 10.30–16.30 with bus rides at 12.15 and 14.45. Station Yard, Long Hanborough, Oxfordshire OX29 8LA. Details: 01296 337622 or visit: www.oxfordbusmuseum.org.uk

Ipswich Transport Museum. Free Bus Rides to the Museum from town centre and railway station (and back!). Leave the car behind and enjoy a leisurely free bus ride to and from the museum. Timetable on our website from early July. If you wish to come into the museum, normal admission charges apply (Adult £5.50, Child £3.50, Concessions £5, Family £16). Further details from Ipswich Transport Museum, Old Trolleybus Depot, Cobham Road, Ipswich IP3 9JD. Tel: 01473 715666, e-mail: enquiries@ipswichtransportmuseum.co.uk or visit: www.ipswichtransportmuseum.co.uk

Key Publishing Buses 2017 Festival. Heritage Motor Centre, Banbury Road, Gaydon, Warwickshire CV35 0BJ. 10.00–17.00. Vehicle displays, trade stalls, free rides around the centre and local scenic routes. Ticket price includes access to Museum, parking and courtesy bus from Leamington Spa railway station. Trade Stand booking & enquiries: Julie Lawson, Tel: 01780 755131 or e-mail: Julie.lawson@keypublishing.com More information on website: www.busesfestival.com

Leeds Classic Bus Runday. Heritage buses operating a network of five routes around Leeds adjacent to the bus station. e-mail: penninebusrallies@outlook.com for details.

Tuesday 22 August

National Tramway Museum Horse Tram Day. 10.00–17.00. Crich Tramway Village, near Matlock, Derbyshire DE4 5DP. Details: e-mail: enquiry@tramway.co.uk, telephone 01773 854321 or visit: www.tramway.co.uk

Friday/Saturday 25/26 August

London Transport Museum, Depot Discovery Tours at Acton Depot. Museum Depot, Acton Town, 2 Museum Way, 118–120 Gunnersbury Lane W3 9BQ. All tours last for approximately two hours. Tickets must be pre-booked online or via our Ticket Office on 0207 565 7298 (open 10.00–17.30 daily) Adult £12, Concession £10, under 16s must be accompanied by an adult. Tickets must be pre-booked. Details: 020 7565 7298 or www.ltmuseum.co.uk

Saturday 26 August

Warminster, Wilts. Imberbus. A half-hourly service of Routemasters, plus several guest vehicles, will operate from Warminster rail station to the abandoned village of Imber, most services continuing to other remote destinations on Salisbury Plain. Service operated by Bath Bus Company with the support of many other leading bus companies. Details on: www.imberbus.wordpress.com Timetable on website at least two weeks before event. Persons without access to the internet can obtain a timetable after 12 August by sending a stamped addressed envelope (marked 'Imberbus timetable') to UK Transport Services, 4 Saxon's Acre, Warminster BA12 8HT.

Saturday–Monday 26–28 August

The Trolleybus Museum at Sandtoft. Big City Weekend Trolleydays. Sandtoft, nr Doncaster. Details: 01724 711391 or visit: www.sandtoft.org.uk

Sunday 27 August

3rd Annual Sheffield Rally and Bus Running Day. 10.00–17.00 at Tesco Abbeydale Road park and ride, S7 2QB. Free local bus services. All classic and vintage buses and coaches welcome. Trade stalls welcome. Contact www.wrbg.weebly.com for application forms, also on Facebook. E-mail: wrbg@talktalk.com or Telephone 07774 626475. Organised by the West Riding Bus Group.

Colne Valley Railway, Bus and Commercial Vehicle Rally. Castle Hedingham, Essex CO9 3DZ (on A1017 between Halstead and Haverhill). 10.30–16.30. Vehicles of all ages welcome. Further info: info@colnevalleyrailway.co.uk or telephone 01787 461174.

Sunday/Monday 27/28 August

National Tramway Museum. Classic Transport Gathering. 10.00–17.30. Crich Tramway Village, near Matlock, Derbyshire DE4 5DP. Details: e-mail: enquiry@tramway.co.uk, tel: 01773 854321 or visit: www.tramway.co.uk

Sunday/Monday 27/28 August

The Transport Museum Wythall. Summer Special. We will run as many classic buses as we can for your enjoyment, plus standstills, miniature steam railway rides. Museum open 10.30–17.00 (last admission 16.30). Museum bus service 750 operates on both days from Holloway Circus (Suffolk St Queensway, near New Alexandra Theatre), central Birmingham, at 10.30 and 11.45 (fare £2.50 each way) and from Maypole at 10.50 and 12.05. Admission: £7 adult, £3.50 child. Family tickets available. Admission and all-day bus riding ticket: £12 adult, £6 child. For further details contact the Transport Museum, Chapel Lane, Wythall B47 6JX. Telephone: 01564 826471, e-mail: enquiries@wythall.org.uk or visit website: www.wythall.org.uk

Monday 28 August

Oxford Bus Museum Vintage buses to Witney (Market Place). Free vintage bus rides from OBM at 11.15 then every hour until 15.15. Station Yard, Long Hanborough, Oxfordshire OX29 8LA. Open 10.30–16.30. Details: 01296 337622 or visit: www.oxfordbusmuseum.org.uk

Ipswich Transport Museum 'Ride a Fire Engine Day'. Get fired up with free rides on the Museum's magnificent fire engines and see other visiting machines. A very popular event. 11.00–16.00. Admission Adult £7, Child £4.50, Concessions £6, Family £20. Further details from Ipswich Transport Museum, Old Trolleybus Depot, Cobham Road, Ipswich IP3 9JD. Tel: 01473 715666, e-mail: enquiries@ipswichtransportmuseum.co.uk or visit: www.ipswichtransportmuseum.co.uk



The Trolleybus Museum at Sandtoft hosts a number of events drawing good crowds. Seen here is one of its Bradford Trolleybuses No 792 (GHN 574), a 1944 Karrier W with East Lancs (1958) bodywork. DAVID JUKES

Ribble Vehicle Preservation Trust 4th Lytham St. Anne's Running Day. Vehicles on display at Lytham Hall and in service around Lytham and St. Anne's. For details see our website: www.rvpt.co.uk (provisional date)

Thursday 31 August

National Tramway Museum Horse Tram Day. 10.00–17.00. Crich Tramway Village, near Matlock, Derbyshire DE4 5DP. Details: e-mail: enquiry@tramway.co.uk, telephone 01773 854321 or visit: www.tramway.co.uk

Sunday 3 September

Museum of Transport Greater Manchester Trans Lancs Transport Show. Heaton Park, Manchester. Museum at Boyle Street, Cheetham, Manchester M8 8UW. Family friendly day out featuring classic and modern transport. Free heritage bus service between Museum and Heaton Park (Middleton Rd Gates). Further details from 0161 205 2122 (Weds, Sat, Sun 10.00–17.00), e-mail: email@gmts.co.uk or visit www.motgm.org.uk

Glasgow Vintage Vehicle Trust Open Sunday. Bridgeton Bus Garage, for events the public entrance is in Broad Street, Glasgow. Open: 11.00–16.00. Admission prices: Adults £ 3.50, Child/OAP £2, Family £ 8. Details: Glasgow Vintage Vehicle Trust (Scottish Charity No. SC034066), 76 Fordneuk Street, Glasgow, G40 3AH. E-mail: info@gvvt.org. Website: www.gvvt.org

Leicester Transport Heritage Trust Bus Running Day & Rally. 11:00–17:00. Free heritage bus services running from Birstall Park & Ride site, Leicester LE4 4NP. Vehicle display and transport stalls. Stoneygate Tram depot open day. Contacts: Leicester Transport Heritage Trust: www.ltht.org.uk, e-mail: info@ltht.org.uk phone 07891 071908 or 0116 275 1642.

Saturday 9 September

Winchester Heritage Open Weekend: Twilight Vintage Bus Services Several preserved buses from King Alfred and other former local operators will operate free journeys over traditional bus routes based on Winchester Broadway between 16:00 and 21:30. For details see www.fokab.org.uk or phone 01737 823436.

Chingford, Royal Forest Hotel, Rangers Road, Chingford, London E4 7QH. Display of 1940s–1960s London buses, recreating the former bus terminus here which closed in September 1968 as a result of London Transport's 'Reshaping Programme'. With free rides on vintage buses around Epping Forest and bookstall selling special souvenir booklet, as well as other books and photographs of historic buses and railways. Approx. 5min walk from Chingford bus and railway stations. London bus route 397 stops nearby. Open 10.30–17.00. Further details of events, please send SSAE to: NLETE, 8 The Rowans, Palmers Green, N13 5AD or e-mail: nleevents@outlook.com

Oxford Bus Museum. Free Vintage bus rides around Oxford City Centre. Frequent service from 10.00 to 15.30. Oxford Bus Museum, Station Yard, Long Hanborough, Oxfordshire OX29 8LA. Open 10.30–16.30. Details: 01296 337622 or visit: www.oxfordbusmuseum.org.uk

Saturday/Sunday 9/10 September

Coventry Heritage Weekend. Scheduled tours visiting up to 15 locations using vehicles from Roger Burdett Collection plus visiting vehicles. Details from Roger on 07889 214236 or e-mail: rogerrbctc@aol.com

Aston Manor Road Transport Museum. Heritage Open Days. Free admission to the museum for this national event (no stalls). Museum located at Shenstone Drive, off Northgate, Aldridge, West Midlands WS9 8TP. 10.30–16.00. Enquiries: 01922 454761, website: www.amrtm.org or on Facebook (under the Museum name).

Saturday/Sunday 9/10 September

Museum of Transport Greater Manchester 'Heritage Open Days' at Boyle Street, Cheetham, Manchester M8 8UW. 10.00–17.00. Free admission and free heritage buses between the Museum, MoSI and People's History Museum. Further details from 0161 205 2122 (Weds, Sat, Suns 10.00–17.00), e-mail: email@gmts.co.uk or visit www.motgm.uk

Southampton Heritage Open Days. Free bus rides (Southampton & District Transport Heritage Trust operated) as part of city-wide events. Details e-mail: info@shods.org.uk.

Sunday 10 September

Birmingham Bus Bash. 1000–1700, at Cannon Hill Park, Edgbaston, Birmingham. Free Shuttle bus from the city centre, Sales Stalls, Food Stalls, and a display of Buses plus other attractions. Details: bus entries: 07877 516406, sales stalls: 07814 403173, general enquiries: 07909 637620. Organised by NX Historic Society in conjunction with YWBC & The Transport Museum, Wythall. Details: Bus entries Andy Walcott: noa462x. aw@gmail.com Stall entries: turland@btinternet.com general enquiries: andy.collett@nationalexpress.com

Epping-Ongar Railway 'Red & Green Rover'. A special Bus Running Day, featuring many of the buses that operated in the 1960s and 1970s together with a few unexpected visitors! Details: 01277 365200 or at www.eorailway.co.uk

South Yorkshire Transport Museum Open Day including South Yorkshire Transport Rally at South Yorkshire Transport Museum, Unit 9, Waddington Way, Aldwarke, Rotherham S65 3SH. Open 10.30–16.00, shop and café open. Free heritage shuttle bus from Rotherham Bus Station (Stand C1) at 11.45, returning from Museum at 14.00. Admission £4, Concessions £2.50, Family £10 (max. two adults). Further details from: info@sytmm.co.uk or Tel: 07852 298082. Details on website: www.sytmm.co.uk/rally

Merthyr Festival of Transport at Merthyr Tydfil Leisure Centre, vehicle display and running day centred at the Leisure Centre. Timetabled roads runs to the Brecon Mountain Railway, Rhymney Brewery and new for 2017 Pontsticill following the old R.I. Davies service. Please look at the website (www.ctpg.co.uk) and Facebook page for updates or e-mail: info@ctpg.co.uk

Kent's Classic Car Show. Details on: www.kentsclassicarshow.co.uk

Severn Valley Railway, Bewdley, Worcs. 'On the Buses' Classic Bus & Coach Day, Bewdley Station, Severn Valley Railway. More than 20 vintage buses on show, free entry with your train ticket. Details: www.svr.co.uk Vehicle entrants/stallholders contact Andrew Hawthorn, 07775 746926.

Romney, Hythe & Dymchurch Railway Bus Rally. Details: Tel 01797 362353, e-mail: info@rhdr.org.uk or see website: www.rhdr.org.uk

Blackpool Vehicle Preservation Group Static show for buses, commercials and militaries, with judging. Fairhaven Lake, Lytham St Annes FY8 1BD. Details: e-mail: bvpg@hotmail.co.uk or visit: www.bvpg.co.uk

Liverpool. Merseyside Transport Trust annual Liverpool Running Day. Buses operating throughout the day around south Liverpool. More information will be available at: www.mttrust.co.uk Programme available in advance or on the day.

Crosville Bus Rally. Helicopter Museum, Locking Moor Road, Weston-super-Mare. The Helicopter Museum offers covered accommodation and outdoor display areas as well as free on-site parking. Owners of buses, cars, commercial vehicles and traction engines, are invited to enter. Forms and further details available on the Crosville website: www.crosvillemotorservices.co.uk



Small buses are the order of the day at the annual Kingsbridge 7ft 6in Running Day. Seen here between Western National SU4LA coaches 420/5 (270/5 KTA) is 1950 Weymann-bodied Daimler CVD6 Exeter (JFJ 873). IAN WILLIAMSON

Saturday 16 September

The Trolleybus Museum at Sandtoft. Trolleyday. Sandtoft, nr Doncaster. Details: 01724 711391 or visit: www.sandtoft.org.uk

10th Kingsbridge 7ft 6in Vintage Bus Running Day, Kingsbridge bus station, The Quay, enjoy the beautiful scenery and coast of the South Hams on services to Bigbury, Hope Cove, Slapton, Salcombe, East Portlemouth, South Pool, Totnes, Thurlestone with additional timings, duplicates and new routes for 2017. Contact: Colin Billington, Ledger Farm, Forest Green Road, Fifield, Maidenhead, Berks. SL6 2NR, phone: 07990 505373, e-mail: enquiries@tvagwot.org.uk website: www.tvagwot.org.uk for entry forms and details of programme availability before the event.

National Tramway Museum Tram Day. Also Model layout. 10.00–17.30. Crich Tramway Village, near Matlock, Derbyshire DE4 5DP. Details: e-mail: enquiry@tramway.co.uk, telephone 01773 854321 or visit: www.tramway.co.uk

Sunday 17 September

St Helens. North West Museum of Road Transport Family Day. Face painting, story telling, model railways, bus rides and lots more for everyone. 10.00–16.00. Free Heritage Bus Rides, light refreshments. Museum is near St Helens Central rail and bus stations Free car parking nearby. Admission: Adult £4.25, Concessions £3.25, Children 5–17 £2.50, Family (2+2) £12.50. Further information from website: www.nwmort.co.uk or Tel: 01744 451681. North West Museum of Road Transport, The Old Bus Depot, 51 Hall Street, St Helens WA10 1DU.

The Trolleybus Museum at Sandtoft. Trolleyday plus Vintage Coach Rally. Sandtoft, nr Doncaster. Details: 01724 711391 or visit: www.sandtoft.org.uk

Oxford Bus Museum Vintage bus rides. 10.30–16.30 with bus rides at 12.15 and 14.45. Station Yard, Long Hanborough, Oxfordshire OX29 8LA. Details: 01296 337622 or visit: www.oxfordbusmuseum.org.uk

SHOWBUS International, Donington Park, Leicestershire. Details: www.showbus.com

Saturday/Sunday 23/24 September

East Anglia Transport Museum Trolleybus Weekend. Sat: 12.00–21.00 and Sun: 11.00–17.00. All available vehicles will be running; as the nights are beginning to draw in, we will be running after dark on Saturday, when the Museum takes on a very special atmosphere under the streetlights. Free park & ride and bus services to Beccles and Lowestoft as well as BBQ in the park. Trade stands, static exhibitions and visiting vehicles. East Anglia Transport Museum, Chapel Rd, Carlton Colville, Lowestoft, Suffolk NR33 8BL. Tel: (01502) 518459, e-mail: admin@eatransportmuseum.co.uk Website: www.eatransportmuseum.co.uk

The Trolleybus Museum at Sandtoft. Weekend Trolleydays plus 2-Day Steam Rally. Sandtoft, nr Doncaster. Details: 01724 711391 or visit: www.sandtoft.org.uk

Sunday 24 September

Museum of Transport Greater Manchester 'Standard Triumph Car Day' at Boyle Street, Cheetham, Manchester M8 8UW. Museum open 10.00–17.00. Selection of classic Standard and Triumph cars on display until approx. 15.00. Further details from 0161 205 2122 (Weds, Sat, Suns 10.00–17.00), e-mail: email@gmts.co.uk or visit www.motgm.uk

Amberley Museum & Heritage Centre Autumn Bus Show and Running Day. Vehicles on display, running within the museum grounds, stalls. Refreshments available. Amberley Museum & Heritage Centre, Bury, West Sussex BN18 9LT. Details: Tel: 01798 831370, e-mail: office@amberleymuseum.co.uk Website: www.amberleymuseum.co.uk

Friday/Saturday 29/30 September

London Transport Museum, Depot Discovery Tours at Acton Depot. Museum Depot, Acton Town, 2 Museum Way, 118–120 Gunnersbury Lane W3 9BQ. All tours last for approximately two hours. Tickets must be pre-booked online or via our Ticket Office on 0207 565 7298 (open 10.00–17.30 daily) Adult £12, Concession £10, under 16s must be accompanied by an adult. Tickets must be pre-booked. Details: 020 7565 7298 or visit: www.ltmuseum.co.uk

Saturday 30 September

Chepstow Red and White day at the Old Ferry Inn, Beachley, Chepstow. Bus trips and sales stalls. Further details: Robert Edworthy 07929 940958.

Sunday 1 October

Warminster Vintage Bus Running Day 1000–1700. Free bus and coach services from Warminster bus station plus (weather permitting) open-top trips around the town. Some 30 vehicles are expected to work through

the scenic Wiltshire countryside. Free feeder services from many local towns. Event sponsored by the Go-Ahead Group. Details on: www.warminstervbrd.wordpress.com Free leaflet available after 1 May by sending a stamped addressed envelope (marked 'Warminster VBRD') to UK Transport Services, 4 Saxon's Acre, Warminster BA12 8HT.

Yorkshire Air Museum Heritage Bus Rally in association with Thornes Independent Coachways at Hemingborough. Thornes will organise the entries of around 30 classic coaches and the event consists of a Heritage Run, culminating at the Museum. Excursions to the nearby Derwent Light Railway centre. The Allied Air Forces Memorial and Yorkshire Air Museum is at Elvington, York, YO41 4AU. Further details: www.yorkshireairmuseum.org, call: 01904 608595 or e-mail: museum@yorkshireairmuseum.org

Amersham and High Wycombe Running Day. Our 29th event encompassing the Amersham area, special emphasis this year however at High Wycombe as this weekend also marks the 40th Anniversary of the closure of the LT garage here. A number of former High Wycombe Garage operated routes will be operated for this event. Further details: Amersham & District Motorbus Society, 68 Hitcham Road, Taplow, Maidenhead SL6 0LZ or e-mail: info@amershammotorbussociety.co.uk or on Society website: www.amershammotorbussociety.co.uk

Wirral Bus & Tram Show, Wirral Transport Museum, Taylor Street Birkenhead 10.00–16.00. The event is open to all buses etc. Details from John Nolan, 21 Meadow Street, New Brighton, Wallasey, Merseyside CH45 9JU. Phone: 0151 639 4929 or e-mail: Johnnolan201@talktalk.net

Saturday 7 October

Ipswich Transport Museum Classic Vehicles Day. An event celebrating classic cars and light commercials. Includes a special display of visiting vehicles, and free bus tours of the local area. 11.00–16.00. Admission: Adult £7, Child £4.50, Concessions £6, Family £20. Further details: Ipswich Transport Museum, Old Trolleybus Depot, Cobham Road, Ipswich IP3 9JD. Tel: 01473 715666, e-mail: enquiries@ipswichtransportmuseum.co.uk or visit: www.ipswichtransportmuseum.co.uk

Saturday/Sunday 7/8 October

Glasgow Vintage Vehicle Trust Open Weekend Bridgeton Bus Garage, Fordneuk Street, Glasgow, 10.00–17.00. Sales stalls, visiting vehicles, Clippie's Café. Stallholders and a limited number of visiting vehicles are welcome but must register via website or address below. Frequent free bus service linking Bridgeton Garage, Glasgow city centre and the Riverside Museum. Admission: Adults £6, Child/OAP £4, Family £15. Weekend pass (adults only £10). Details: Glasgow Vintage Vehicle Trust (Scottish Charity No. SC034066), 76 Fordneuk Street, Glasgow, G40 3AH. E-mail: info@gvvt.org. Website: www.gvvt.org

Sunday 8 October

South Yorkshire Transport Museum Open Day at South Yorkshire Transport Museum, Unit 9, Waddington Way, Aldwarke, Rotherham S65 3SH. Open 10.30–16.00, shop and café open. Free heritage shuttle bus from Rotherham bus station (Stand C1) at 11.45, returning from Museum at 14.00. Admission £4, Concessions £2.50, Family £10 (max. two adults). Further details from: info@sytm.co.uk or Tel: 07852 298082. Website: www.sytm.co.uk

The Transport Museum Wythall. Birmingham Bus Birthday. Marking 20 years since WMPTE's Fleetlines operated and 40 years since Birmingham's rear entrance buses ran. Bus and miniature train rides, sales stands. Museum open 10.30–17.00 (last admission 16.30). Museum bus service 750 operates from Holloway Circus (Suffolk Street Queensway, near New Alexandra Theatre), central Birmingham, at 10.30 and 11.45 (fare £2.50 each way) and from Maypole at 10.50 and 12.05. Admission: £7 adult, £3.50 child. Family tickets available. Admission and all-day bus riding ticket: £12 adult, £6 child. For further details contact the Transport Museum, Chapel Lane, Wythall B47 6JX. Telephone: 01564 826471, e-mail: enquiries@wythall.org.uk or visit website: www.wythall.org.uk

Castle Point Transport Museum Open Day, Point Rd, Canvey Island, Essex. Details: 01268-684272.

Yorkshire Dales Vintage Bus & Coach Running Day, Skipton. Details: Aire Valley Transport Group, www.avtg.co.uk

Saturday 14 October

Samuel Ledgard Society 13th Annual Transport Collectors' Fair & Running Day. 50 years to the day since our beloved Ledgard buses returned to their respective depots for the very last time after a full service to the public that day. As part of the day's commemoration we hold the usual Transport Collectors' Fair at Pudsey Civic Hall, Cote Lane, Dawson's Corner, Pudsey, near Leeds, LS28 5TA with the usual mix of up to 100 tables selling all manner of transport memorabilia. 10.00–15.00. Admission £1. Complementing this will be a running day with free vintage bus services around the area departing on a regular timetable from outside the Civic



Merseybus 261 (F261 YJT), a 1989 Northern Counties-bodied Leyland Olympian passes along Birkenhead's Pacific Road during the 2015 Wirral Bus & Tram Show. PHILIP LAMB

Hall entrance door. Times will be confirmed later. Seats can also be reserved on the re-enactment of the last Ledgard bus journey from Bradford Chester Street to Leeds complete with the famous 'incident' that befell this bus on that sad night. Enquiries: Barry Rennison, phone; 0113 236 3695 email: rennison@cc-email.co.uk. Website: www.samuelledgardsociety.org.uk.

Theydon Bois Transport Bazaar & Vintage Bus Display, Theydon Bois Village Hall, Coppice Row, Essex CM16 7ER. Five minutes' level walk from Theydon Bois Central Line Station, (LU Zone 6). Up to 40 stalls selling all kinds of bus and railway memorabilia, books, photos, maps, timetables, etc. Approx. 20 vintage buses on display, some giving free rides around Epping Forest, subject to vehicle and crew availability. Open 11.00–15.30. Admission £3 (accompanied children free). Refreshments available. **No public car parking.** Further details of events, please send SSAE to: NLETE, 8 The Rowans, Palmers Green, N13 5AD or e-mail: nleevents@outlook.com

Saturday/Sunday 14/15 October

Isle of Wight Classic Buses, Beer and Walks Weekend 2017. Organised by the Isle of Wight Bus & Coach Museum in conjunction with CAMRA. Full details on website: www.iwbeerandbuses.co.uk Buses will be running to and from multiple locations on the Island with at least three "interchanges".

Sunday 15 October

Samuel Ledgard Society. Samuel Ledgard joint West Yorkshire Running Day. Also to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the demise of Ledgard buses today we now move to Otley for another free bus service running day to mark the takeover date of Ledgard's by the West Yorkshire Road Car Company. Departing from outside the bus station a timetable of routes is being planned and will be operated by a guest Ledgard bus and preserved West Yorkshire vehicles, commencing approx 10.30. We will have a base at our Otley headquarters the Rose and Crown on Bondgate with a social meeting and buffet later in the day. Enquiries: Barry Rennison, phone; 0113 236 3695 email: rennison@cc-email.co.uk Website: www.samuelledgardsociety.org.uk



Western SMT on parade at Bridgeton. The Glasgow Vintage Vehicle Trust October Open Day draws in the crowds. Understandably when vehicles such as this Western SMT line-up are on offer. Alongside Alexander-bodied Leyland PD3/3s AD1543/4 (MSD 407/8) is Bristol LD6G DB1645 (RAG 411). PHILIP LAMB

Sunday 15 October

Aston Manor Road Transport Museum 'Autumn Leaves Running Day'. Final running day for this year with guest vehicles travelling to various local destinations, stalls also present. Museum located at Shenstone Drive, off Northgate, Aldridge, West Midlands WS9 8TP. 10.30–16.00. Admission: £5 Adults, £2 Child, Family £13 (includes event guide). Enquiries: 01922 454761, website: www.amrtm.org or on Facebook (under the Museum name).

The Trolleybus Museum at Sandtoft. Trolleyday plus Isle of Axholme Running Day and Rally. Sandtoft, nr Doncaster. Details: 01724 711391 or visit: www.sandtoft.org.uk

Saturday 21 October

Portchester, nr Fareham, Hants. The Provincial Society's 10th Annual Indoor Transport Fair at Portchester Parish Hall, near Assheton Court, PO16 9PY, off Castle Street (half mile from railway station). 10.30–13.00. Admission £1. Books, photographs, DVDs, models plus light refreshments. Contact: Website – www.provincialsociety.org

Ipswich Transport Museum Wheels by Lamplight. 17.30–21.00. An unusual and atmospheric event, as enthusiastic collectors illuminate the museum with hundreds of old oil and paraffin lamps. Enjoy a special evening and leave with a warm cosy glow. (PLEASE NOTE: Children cannot be admitted to this event). Admission charge £7 Adult/Concessions. Further details from Ipswich Transport Museum, Old Trolleybus Depot, Cobham Road, Ipswich IP3 9JD. Tel: 01473 715666, e-mail: enquiries@ipswichtransportmuseum.co.uk or visit: www.ipswichtransportmuseum.co.uk

Saturday/Sunday 21/22 October

Museum of Transport Greater Manchester. 1960s Weekend. Special event celebrating Greater Manchester's buses from the 1960s. 10.00–17.00. Buses on display and free heritage bus rides. Museum at Boyle Street, Cheetham, Manchester M8 8UW. Free heritage bus service to & from Manchester Victoria every 20min. 09.50–16.50. Further details: 0161 205 2122 (Wed, Sat, Sun 10.00–17.00), e-mail: email@gmts.co.uk or visit www.motgm.uk

Sunday 22 October

London Bus Museum's Transportfest 2017. 10.00–17.00. Brooklands Road, Weybridge, Surrey (Sat Nav: KT13 0SL). Free parking at Museum. Details: Tel: 01932 837994, e-mail: londonbusmuseum@btinternet.com Website: www.londonbusmuseum.com

Monday–Sunday 23–29 October

National Tramway Museum 'Starlight Spectacular'. 10.00–17.30 daily. Crich Tramway Village, near Matlock, Derbyshire DE4 5DP. Details: e-mail: enquiry@tramway.co.uk, telephone 01773 854321 or visit: www.tramway.co.uk

Friday/Saturday 27/28 October

London Transport Museum, Depot Discovery Tours at Acton Depot. Museum Depot, Acton Town, 2 Museum Way, 118–120 Gunnersbury Lane W3 9BQ. All tours last for approximately two hours. Tickets must be pre-booked online or via our Ticket Office on 0207 565 7298 (open 10.00–17.30 daily) Adult £12, Concession £10, under 16's must be accompanied by an adult. Tickets must be pre-booked. Details: 020 7565 7298 or visit: www.ltmuseum.co.uk

Saturday 28 October

East Anglia Transport Museum Halloween. 14.00–19.00. Free witch hunt for the children with a prize for every child. The late running of our trams trolleybuses and train into the evening will be a chilling experience for all as the woods come alive with the spirits of Allhallow's Eve when it gets dark! Free park & ride. East Anglia Transport Museum, Chapel Rd, Carlton Colville, Lowestoft, Suffolk NR33 8BL. Telephone (01502) 518459, e-mail: admin@eatransportmuseum.co.uk or visit website: www.eatransportmuseum.co.uk for full details.

The Transport Museum Wythall. Twilight Running Day. Turn the clock back with atmospheric rides on the classic buses. Museum open 11.00–19.00 (last admission 18.00). Museum bus service 750 operates from Holloway Circus (Suffolk Street Queensway, near New Alexandra Theatre), central Birmingham, at 11.45 and 15.40 (fare £2.50 each way); return journeys from Wythall depart 15.00, 16.20 and 18.30. Admission: £7 adult, £3.50 child. Family tickets available. Admission + all-day bus riding ticket: £12 adult, £6 child. For further details contact the Transport Museum, Chapel Lane, Wythall B47 6JX. Telephone: 01564 826471, e-mail: enquiries@wythall.org.uk or visit website: www.wythall.org.uk

Saturday/Sunday 28/29 October

The Trolleybus Museum at Sandtoft. Weekend Trolleydays. Sandtoft, nr Doncaster. Details: 01724 711391 or visit: www.sandtoft.org.uk

Sunday 29 October

Keighley Bus Museum Open Day and Twilight Running. Large transport collectors' fair, large selection of buses on free-to-use heritage bus service around the local area, an ideal opportunity to photograph buses in the early evening with their lights on, refreshments and toilet facilities available in the museum. 12.00–19.00. Keighley Bus Museum Trust is at Unit 5, River Technology Park, Riverside, Keighley BD21 4JP. For more details or to enter a vehicle or sales stall please contact 07546 704558, e-mail: enquiries@kbmt.org.uk or visit: www.kbmt.org.uk

St Helens North West Museum of Road Transport Autumn Heritage

Bus Running Day. Museum open 10.00–16.30. Enjoy free rides on different routes around St Helens on some of our historic buses and visiting vehicles into the twilight zone! Stalls selling transport books, photos, models etc. in the Museum. Museum is near to St Helens Central rail and bus stations Free car parking nearby. Admission: Adult £4.25, Concessions £3.25, Children 5–17 £2.50, Family (2+2) £12.50. Further information from website: www.nwmort.co.uk or Tel: 01744 451681. North West Museum of Road Transport, The Old Bus Depot, 51 Hall Street, St Helens WA10 1DU.

Swansea Bus Museum Autumn Running Day. Wrapping up our 2017 Rally season. Join in with our bus trips and see a wide range of buses and visiting exhibits. Trade stalls and refreshments provided. Adults £5, members and under 16s FREE. SA1 Business Park, Langdon Road (East), Port Tennant, Swansea SA1 8QY. Details on our website: www.swanseabusmuseum.com e-mail: SwanseaBM@outlook.com or Tel: 01792 732832.

Monday–Sunday 30 October–5 November

National Tramway Museum Winter Festival. 10.00–17.30. Crich Tramway Village, near Matlock, Derbyshire DE4 5DP. Details: e-mail: enquiry@tramway.co.uk, telephone 01773 854321 or visit: www.tramway.co.uk

Saturday 4 November

Enfield Transport Bazaar. St. Paul's Centre, 102 Church Street, Enfield EN2 6AR. Junction of Church Street, Chase Side and Windmill Hill in the heart of Enfield Town, just 2min walk from Enfield Chase station (Great Northern Hertford North line) or 10min from Enfield Town station (London Overground). All buses serving Enfield Town stop within 5min walk. Features up to forty stalls selling all kinds of transport books, photos, DVDs, maps, timetables, tickets and other memorabilia. Bazaar open 11.00–14.30. Admission £3 (acc. children free). Further details of events, please send SSAE to: NLETE, 8, The Rowans, Palmers Green, N13 5AD or e-mail: nleevents@outlook.com

Sunday 5 November

'Transport Festival' at Lincolnshire Road Transport Museum, Whisby Road, North Hykeham, Lincoln. 10.00–17.00. Adult admission £7, accompanied children free. Displays, visiting vehicles, sales stands, refreshments, and a variety of buses and coaches operating free services from Lincoln railway station and local 'park and ride' (from Teal Park, Whisby Road (just off A46 Lincoln by-pass/Whisby roundabout.) Please use our bus services as parking on site limited to 'blue badge' holders. Visiting vintage/classic/preserved vehicles welcome, but please contact in advance if bringing bus/coach/HGV. Details 01522 500566/01522 689497/07984 872994, www.lvvs.org.uk / info@lvvs.org.uk / [@LincsRTM](https://www.facebook.com/LincsRTM) on Facebook / Twitter

Sunday 12 November

Cosham, Portsmouth. Autumn Transport Fair. Community Centre, Wootton Street, Cosham, Portsmouth PO6 3AP. Open 10.00–15.30, admission £1.50. Stalls, free bus rides and light refreshments. Display by local area Model Bus Federation members. Close to Cosham Railway Station and convenient for A3/M27. Enquiries: vtransportgroup@btinternet.com

South Yorkshire Transport Museum Open Day at South Yorkshire Transport Museum, Unit 9, Waddington Way, Aldwarke, Rotherham S65 3SH. Open 10.30–16.00, shop and café open. Free heritage shuttle bus from Rotherham Bus Station (Stand C1) at 11.45, returning from Museum at 14.00. Admission £4, Concessions £2.50, Family £10 (max. two adults). Further details from: info@sytmt.co.uk or Tel: 07852 298082. Website: www.sytmt.co.uk

Saturday 18 November

Northampton Transport Collectors Fair, Abington Church Rooms, Park Avenue North, Northampton NN3 2HT. Over 30 stalls selling transport books, memorabilia, model railways, models etc. Open 10.00–15.30, refreshments available, admission £1. Stagecoach bus 16 to Ecton Brook stops right outside. For details and stall booking forms please contact Steve Loveridge, 75 Bakers Crescent, Irchester NN29 7BA.

The Trolleybus Museum at Sandtoft. Twilight & After Dark Trolleyday. 11.00–18.00. Sandtoft, near Doncaster. Details: 01724 711391 or visit: www.sandtoft.org.uk

Sunday 19 November

Dewsbury Bus Museum Autumn Open and Running Day. Admission by programme, £3 adult, accompanied children free. Advance copy available for £4 by sending a cheque payable to West Riding Omnibus Museum Trust, 47E Dale Street, Ossett WF5 9HE. 10.00–16.30 with a full day of free services and tours. Free shuttle service from Dewsbury South Street to the Ravensthorpe Museum building. More than 20 vehicles running in service and a large selection of visiting buses, trade stalls, Museum Café, Tombola, and much more. Visiting vehicles always welcome. Free feeder services from Bradford, Castleford, Huddersfield, Keighley, Leeds, Pontefract & Wakefield. For more information visit: www.dewsburybusmuseum.co.uk

Aston Manor Road Transport Museum Annual Collectors' Fair.

Enthusiast memorabilia, books, models, DVDs from a variety of sellers on offer. Half-hourly free bus service will operate from Walsall during the day to get to the event. Museum located at Shenstone Drive, off Northgate, Aldridge, West Midlands WS9 8TP. 10.30–16.00. Admission: £3 Adults, £2 Child, Family £9. Enquiries: 01922 454761, website: www.amrtm.org or on Facebook (under the Museum name).

Ipswich Transport Museum. Classic Buses and Coaches. An event focusing on the buses and coaches from the 1940s to the present day, with rides on museum and visiting vehicles. 11.00–16.00. Admission charges: Adult £7, Child £4.50, Concessions £6, Family £20. Further details from Ipswich Transport Museum, Old Trolleybus Depot, Cobham Road, Ipswich IP3 9JD. Tel: 01473 715666, e-mail: enquiries@ipswichtransportmuseum.co.uk or visit: www.ipswichtransportmuseum.co.uk

Friday/Saturday 24/25 November

London Transport Museum, Depot Discovery Tours at Acton Depot. Museum Depot, Acton Town, 2 Museum Way, 118–120 Gunnersbury Lane W3 9BQ. All tours last for approximately two hours. Tickets must be pre-booked online or via our Ticket Office on 0207 565 7298 (open 10.00–17.30 daily) Adult £12, Concession £10, under 16s must be accompanied by an adult. Tickets must be pre-booked. Details: 020 7565 7298 or visit: www.ltmuseum.co.uk

Saturday 25 November

Epsom & Ewell Transport Fair at Bourne Hall, Spring Street, Ewell, KT17 1UF. Open 10.00–15.30. Admission £2 (accompanied U16 free). Close to Ewell West railway station, buses 293 (Morden), 406 (Kingston and Epsom) stop in High Street nearby. Books, DVDs, models, ephemera, magazines, photographs, tickets etc. Refreshments available. Enquiries: Julian Bowden, 21 Forde Avenue, Bromley BR1 3EU (SAE please) or Telephone: 07932 812268.

Saturday 2 December

Swansea Bus Museum Santa Special. Three Santa Special vintage bus trips to the place where Santa lives and hands out presents! The location is a secret and getting there will be an unforgettable experience for young and old. Check out our website: www.swanseabusmuseum.com for booking arrangements nearer the time. SA1 Business Park, Langdon Road (East), Port Tennant, Swansea SA1 8QY.

Saturday/Sunday 2/3 December

Museum of Transport Greater Manchester 'The Christmas Cracker'. Boyle Street, Cheetham, Manchester M8 8UW. 10.00–17.00. Transport collectors' fair with books, DVDs, models, photographs and more, plus a display of vehicles. Free heritage bus link to/from Manchester Victoria every 20min. 09.50–16.50. Further details from 0161 205 2122 (Wed, Sat, Sun 10.00–17.00), e-mail: email@gmts.co.uk or visit www.motgm.co.uk

Sunday 3 December

Ipswich Transport Museum 'The Christmas Cracker'. 11.00–16.00. The final opening day of our season is a family day with a Christmas theme. Festive decorations and entertainment in the museum help to get you in the Christmas mood. Come and ride on a selection of our fire engines and buses, then meet Santa in his grotto. (Entry to the grotto £1 extra, which includes a gift). Admission charges: Adult £7, Child £4.50, Concessions £6, Family £20. Further details from Ipswich Transport Museum, Old Trolleybus Depot, Cobham Road, Ipswich IP3 9JD. Tel: 01473 715666, e-mail: enquiries@ipswichtransportmuseum.co.uk or visit: www.ipswichtransportmuseum.co.uk

Saturday 9 December

Swansea Bus Museum Santa Special. Three Santa Special vintage bus trips to the place where Santa lives and hands out presents! The location is a secret and getting there will be an unforgettable experience for young and old. Check out our website: www.swanseabusmuseum.com for booking arrangements nearer the time. SA1 Business Park, Langdon Road (East), Port Tennant, Swansea SA1 8QY.

Sunday 10 December

South Yorkshire Transport Museum Open Day, including Brass Band and wartime Christmas displays at South Yorkshire Transport Museum, Unit 9, Waddington Way, Aldwarke, Rotherham S65 3SH. Open 10.30–16.00, shop and café open. Free heritage shuttle bus from Rotherham bus station (Stand C1) at 11.45, returning from Museum at 14.00. Admission £4, Concessions £2.50, Family £10 (max. two adults). Further details from: info@syt.co.uk or Tel: 07852 298082. Website: www.syt.co.uk

Saturday 16 December

Swansea Bus Museum Santa Special. Three Santa Special vintage bus trips to the place where Santa lives and hands out presents! The location is a secret and getting there will be an unforgettable experience for young and old. Check out our website: www.swanseabusmuseum.com for booking arrangements nearer the time. SA1 Business Park, Langdon Road (East), Port Tennant, Swansea SA1 8QY.

Saturday/Sunday 16/17 December

St Helens North West Museum of Road Transport Santa Weekend. Open 12.00–16.00. Visit Santa in his grotto, have a go at the Christmas Quiz and a ride on our Christmas bus. Museum is near to St. Helens Central rail and bus stations Free car parking nearby. Admission: Special prices, see leaflets or website: www.nwmort.co.uk or Tel: 01744 451681. North West Museum of Road Transport, The Old Bus Depot, 51 Hall Street, St Helens WA10 1DU.

Saturday 30 December

Haywards Heath, Sussex. Mid-Sussex Transport Fair. Clair Hall, Perrymount Road, Haywards Heath RH16 3DN. 10.00–15.00. Admission £1.50, accompanied U16 free. Close to Haywards Heath Railway Station and opposite former Southdown bus station. Buses, commercial vehicle and railway related items for sale including books, DVDs, ephemera, magazines, models, photographs, postcards, tickets etc. Refreshments available. Enquiries: Julian Bowden, 21 Forde Avenue, Bromley BR1 3EU (SAE please). Tel: 07932 812268.



Last year's Potteries Connection event was blessed with brilliant sunshine. In view here is Bournemouth 55 (KRU 55F), a Willowbrook-bodied Daimler Roadliner. PHILIP LAMB

BUSES FESTIVAL

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Check out the official website for vehicle, trade and exhibit listings

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Kindly provided by Stagecoach

ON THE DAY PRICES:

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- Children under 5: **FREE** • Family (2 adults, 3 children): £39

Opening times: 10am-4pm

Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult at all times. *Savings against British Motor Museum on-the-day ticket prices. Deadline for advance ticket orders 11 August 2017.

To book: Call 01780 480 404 or visit: www.busesfestival.com

To exhibit your vehicle or trade, contact Julie Lawson
on 01780 755 131, email: julie.lawson@keypublishing.com
or visit www.busesfestival.com for more info.

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